# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-228
Tuesday
27 November 1990

# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-228 27 November 1990

CONTENTS

**NOTICE TO READERS:** An • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.


**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

**Inter-Arab Affairs**

Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria Form Joint Command *[Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ 18 Nov]* ..... 1
Future Meeting Planned *[MENA]* ..... 1
Arab League Condemns Israel on Jerusalem *[Tunis Radio]* ..... 1
Maghreb Security Meeting Held in Algiers *[Algiers Radio]* ..... 1
Algeria's Bendjedid Addresses Maghreb Conference *[Algiers Radio]* ..... 1
Arab Ministers Differ at Nonaligned Meeting *[AFP]* ..... 3
Palestinian Sources View Arab Mini-Summit *[Cairo MENA]* ..... 4

**Palestinian Affairs**

Palestine Liberation Front Threatens U.S. Interests *[Tokyo KYODO]* ..... 4
Commentary Refutes Report Concerning PLO Aid *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... 4

**ARAB AFRICA**

**Egypt**

Mubarak 'Strongly Rejected' 'Arafat Overture *[London AL-MAJALLAH 21-27 Nov]* ..... 6
Sudanese Ambassador Denies Reports of Coup *[MENA]* ..... 6
Papers Consider UN Moves, Warnings to Saddam *[MENA]* ..... 6
Papers View Gulf Crisis, Mubarak Efforts *[MENA]* ..... 6
Argentine Senate President Supports Gulf Stand *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 7
AL-AHRAM Examines Government's Role in Gulf *[MENA]* ..... 7
Armament Industry Chief Views Gulf Performance *[AL-ANBA' 23 Nov]* ..... 8
Article Reviews Mubarak Visit to Syria, Libya *[AL-WAFD 17 Nov]* ..... 9
Murad Writes on Elections' Constitutionality *[AL-AHRAR 19 Nov]* ..... 10
Electoral Activities of Various Parties Reported *[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 21 Nov]* ..... 11
Party Leaders Interviewed on Upcoming Elections *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 12
Further on Interviews *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 13
Cabinet Meeting Views Foreign, Domestic Issues *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 13
Sidqi Discusses Elections, Gulf, Unemployment *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 14
'Abd-al-Majid Hails Outcome of CSCE Summit *[MENA]* ..... 14
Al-Mahjub Murder Suspects Reveal Other Targets *[AL-AHALI 21 Nov]* ..... 15
Security Forces Arrest Al-Jihad Group Members *[AL-AHRAM 18 Nov]* ..... 15
Talks Held With Italians on Satellite Channels *[MENA]* ..... 15
Libya's Qadhdhaf-al-Damm Concludes Official Visit *[MENA]* ..... 15
German Financing To Total 1.4 Billion Marks *[AL-AHRAM 20 Nov]* ..... 16
Economic Agreement Signed With Finland 25 Nov *[MENA]* ..... 16
Army Conducts Night Maneuver Across Suez Canal *[MENA]* ..... 16

**Sudan**

Al-Bashir Reiterates Position on Gulf *[SUNA]* ..... 17
Iran To Aid in Commerce, Construction Projects *[SUNA]* ..... 17
Sahlul Meets U.S. Envoy, Reaffirms Neutrality *[SUNA]* ..... 18
Curfew Extended in Red Sea Province *[Voice of Sudan]* ..... 18
Radio SPLA Says Rebels Capture Two Towns ..... 18

University Students To Undergo Military Training *[SUNA]* ..... 18
Al-Bashir on Ties With PRC, Japan, Pakistan *[SUNA]* ..... 18
World Bank Grants Funds for Sugar Industry *[SUNA]* ..... 19

## ARABIAN PENINSULA

### Kuwait

Exiles in Egypt Send Open Letter to Bush *[London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI 23 Nov]* .. 20
Government Forms Higher Consultative Commission *[Radio Kuwait]* ..... 21

### Oman

GCC Summit on Crisis Set for December in Doha *[WAKH]* ..... 21
Official Leaves for Tehran on 'Routine' Visit *[Muscat Radio]* ..... 21

### Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Speaks on Gulf Crisis, Foreign Forces *[Riyadh TV]* ..... 22
INA Reports Local Group Seeks Fahd Overthrow ..... 26

### United Arab Emirates

Pakistan's Sharif To Send More Troops to Gulf *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 26
President Meets Belonogov, Discusses Crisis *[WAKH]* ..... 26
Shaykh Hamdan Comments on War, Peace Prospects *[London AL-HAWADITH 23 Nov]* ..... 27

### Yemen

Salih's Family Reportedly Flees *[London AL-ZAHIRAH 20 Nov]* ..... 28
Press Comments on Gulf, U.S. 'Pressure' on UN *[Sanaa Radio]* ..... 28
Iraqi Awqaf Minister Visits for 'Consultations' ..... 29
Arrives in Sanaa 24 Nov *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 29
Concludes Visit, Departs *[INA]* ..... 29
Further on Visit by DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah ..... 29
Meets With Salih on Gulf, Palestine *[Sanaa Radio]* ..... 29
Meets With Prime Minister *[Sanaa Radio]* ..... 29
PFLP's Habash Praises Sanaa's Stance on Gulf *[Sanaa Radio]* ..... 29
President Says No Political Prisoners in Country *[Sanaa Radio]* ..... 30

## IRAQ

Alleged Saddam Withdrawal Formula Reported *['UKAZ 24 Nov]* ..... 31
State Reportedly Tried To Sell Oil Via Libya *[Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT 23-24 Nov]* ..... 32
Ten British Nationals, Wives Depart 27 Nov *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 32
Swedish Nationals Allowed To Leave *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 32
Saddam Allows Three Americans To Leave *[AFP]* ..... 32
Speaker Meets With Visiting American Families *[INA]* ..... 33
Jasim Confers With Swiss Delegation *[INA]* ..... 33
Ramadan Receives Jordanian Delegation *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 33
Ramadan Meets New Italian, Canadian Ambassadors *[INA]* ..... 34
Peace Organization Chief Meets With Australians *[INA]* ..... 34
Delegation Meets Speaker *[INA]* ..... 34
Archbishop Capucci Lauds Peace Initiatives *[INA]* ..... 34
Ramadan Explains 'Plot' *[INA]* ..... 35
Meets With Salih *[INA]* ..... 35
Sudanese Information Minister Arrives for Visit ..... 35
Stresses Role of Media *[INA]* ..... 35
Confers With Jasim *[INA]* ..... 36
Departs; Issues Statement *[INA]* ..... 36
Ba'th, Spanish Parties Sign Cooperation Protocol *[INA]* ..... 37

Ramadan Confers With Jihad Official on Crisis *[INA]* ..... 37
Ramadan, UK's Brown Discuss Solution to Crisis *[INA]* ..... 37
Mauritanian President's Personal Envoy Arrives *[INA]* ..... 37
Comments on Gulf *[INA]* ..... 37
Confers With Saddam *[INA]* ..... 38
Leaves Baghdad *[INA]* ..... 38
Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad for Visit *[Voice of the PLO]* ..... 38
Meets With 'Aziz *[INA]* ..... 38
Sa'id Meets Dutch, Danish Red Cross Officials *[INA]* ..... 38
Belgian Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 22 Nov *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 39
Official Supports Initiative *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 39
Official Praises Initiative *[INA]* ..... 39
Delegation Meets Speaker *[Brussels Radio]* ..... 39
Confers With Ramadan *[INA]* ..... 40
Italian Medicine, Vaccines Shipment Arrives *[INA]* ..... 40
Ramadan Meets UK Official, Attacks Bush Policy *[INA]* ..... 40
Finnish, Italian 'Peace' Delegations Arrive *[INA]* ..... 40
Finns Meet Official *[INA]* ..... 41
Greek Peace Delegation Meets With Ramadan *[INA]* ..... 41
Thanks Saddam for Release *[INA]* ..... 41
Ramadan Meets With Canadian Delegation *[INA]* ..... 42
U.S., Canadian Churches Delegation Arrives 23 Nov *[INA]* ..... 42
Meets With Official *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 42
U.S. Delegation Lauds Efforts *[INA]* ..... 43
Ramadan Tells Arabs 2 Aug Inaugurated New Era *[INA]* ..... 43
Assembly Speaker Receives 'Peace Messengers' *[INA]* ..... 43
Peace Delegations Call for Arab Solution *[INA]* ..... 43
UN Geneva Envoy Meets Iranian Counterpart *[INA]* ..... 43
Peace Camp Rejects War, Calls for Dialogue *[INA]* ..... 44
Paper Comments on Bush's Cairo News Conference *[INA]* ..... 44
More Comments on Shamir Statements Reported ..... 44
Paper Attacks Bush Reaction *[INA]* ..... 44
Vice President Reacts *[INA]* ..... 44
National Front Holds Discussion *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 45
Arab Pleasure at Thatcher's 'Downfall' Noted *[AL-THAWRAH 23 Nov]* ..... 45
Press Warns Gulf Coalition Against Attack *[INA]* ..... 46
Paper Reiterates Call for Peace, Dialogue *[INA]* ..... 46
Kuwait Popular Army Command Formed *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... 47
Saddam Replies to U.S. Child's Letter of Peace *[INA]* ..... 47
Ports Holding Goods Destined for Nation Listed *[INA]* ..... 47
Trade Minister Says Blockade Harms Other Countries *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 21 Nov]* ..... 48
UN Adopts Saddam Interview as Official Document *[INA]* ..... 49
Saddam, Officials Assess Latest Developments *[INA]* ..... 49
Scrap Paper Recycled for Books, Typing Paper *[INA]* ..... 49
Assembly Approves Industrial Bank, Penal Code Laws *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 50
Saddam Receives Cable From German President *[INA]* ..... 50
Military Attache in Ankara Returns to Baghdad *[Tehran International]* ..... 50
Agricultural Effort To Beat Blockade Praised *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 50
Sowing Campaign To Confront 'Unjust Blockade' *[Baghdad Radio]* ..... 51

**ISRAEL**

Further on Shamir Remarks to French Group *[Paris Radio]* ..... 52
Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark Visits ..... 52
Meets Levi; Sees No Gulf Linkage *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 52
Meets With Shamir; Levi on Policy *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 52
Concludes Talks; Holds Conference *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 52
Shamir May Propose Gaza 'Gradual Disengagement' *[AL HAMISHMAR 27 Nov]* ..... 53
Minister Ties U.S.-Syria Rapprochement to Attack *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 53
Arens Says Air Raid Not 'Reaction' to Clash *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 53
Egyptians Allowed To Investigate Attack on Bus *[Jerusalem TV]* ..... 54

'Terrorist Incidents' by Negev Bedouin Increase *[DAVAR 27 Nov]* ..... 54
USSR Appoints Chistyakov First Consul General *[HA'ARETZ 25 Nov]* ..... 54
IDF General Resigns, Says Army Unfit for War *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 54
Three Kakh 'Leaders' Detained; More Expected *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 55
Breakaway Kakh Members Set Up New Organization *[HA'ARETZ 27 Nov]* ..... 55
Attorney General Orders Investigation of Minister *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 55

**JORDAN**

Al-Qasim Receives Security Council Envoys *[Amman TV]* ..... 56
Crown Prince Hasan Returns From Japan, France *[Amman Radio]* ..... 56
UK's Tony Benn Arrives En Route to Baghdad *[Amman TV]* ..... 57
Jordanian-Romanian Committee Views Cooperation *[Amman Radio]* ..... 57
King Husayn Speaks to Arab Engineers Council *[Amman Radio]* ..... 57
Cabinet To Present Two Budgets for 1991 *[JORDAN TIMES 27 Nov]* ..... 57
House Committees Elect Chairmen, Rapporteurs *[PETRA-JNA]* ..... 58
Deputies Respond to King Husayn's Speech ..... 58
Senate Reply *[Amman Radio]* ..... 58
House Reply *[Amman Radio]* ..... 60

**LEBANON**

Reportage on Attack on Israeli Soldiers ..... 64
Account of Fighting *[AFP]* ..... 64
Five Soldiers Reported Killed *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 64
PFLP Claims Responsibility *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 64
Retaliatory Raid Confirmed *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 64
VOM Report ..... 64
Israeli Movements Reported in South *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 65
Hizballah Hails Operations Against Israelis *[Voice of the Oppressed]* ..... 65
Al-Musawi Calls for Resistance Against Israel *[Voice of the Oppressed]* ..... 65
Israeli Patrol Attacked, Deployment Reported *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 65
Amal, Hizballah Withdraw From Iqlim al-Tuffah *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 65
Lebanese Forces Chief Views Withdrawal Process *[RFL]* ..... 66
Lebanese Forces Comment on Delay of Withdrawal *[VOL]* ..... 66
Weapons To Be Confiscated During Deployment *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 66
Government Reportedly To Announce Resignation *[VOL]* ..... 66
Al-Huss To Be New Leader *[VOL]* ..... 66
Al-Hirawi Holds 'Anniversary' News Conference *[RFL]* ..... 66

**SYRIA**

Press Views Outcome of Al-Asad, Bush Summit *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 67
Al-Shar', UK Officials Discuss Relations *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 67
Army Chief Reportedly 'Bitterly' Criticizes Iraq *[AFP]* ..... 68
Al-Shar' Briefs Assembly on Current Developments *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 68
Parliamentary Talks With Cyprus Begin 24 Nov *[SANA]* ..... 68
Qaddah, Lissaridhis Meet *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 69
Cypriots Confer With Al-Zu'bi *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 69
Meet With Al-Asad *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 69
Agricultural Export Allowed Without License *[TISHRIN 20 Nov]* ..... 69

**SOUTH ASIA**

**Afghanistan**

Reportage on Najibullah Visit to Switzerland *[cross reference]* ..... 70
Najibullah Returns to Kabul From Switzerland *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 70
Najibullah Holds News Conference 26 Nov *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 70
Deputy Premier Leads Delegation to USSR *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 73

**Bangladesh**

Ershad Returns, Remarks on SAARC Summit *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 73
Ershad Talks Viewed *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 73
Gun Battle Reported at Dhaka University *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 74
Ershad Speaks at College, Views Opposition *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 74
Ershad Urges 'United Protest' on Opposition *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 74
Ershad Changes Portfolios of Two Ministers *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 74

**India**

Janata Dal Claims Pakistan Nuclear Capable *[AFP]* ..... 75
Commentator Reviews Relations With Pakistan *[Delhi International]* ..... 75
Nepali Premier Departs; Power Agreement Signed *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 76
Spokesman Denies Iraq Forcibly Off-Loaded Ship *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 76
Trade Agreement Signed With Poland 26 Nov *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 76
Congress-I Favors Temple With Mosque Intact *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 76
Shekhar on Talks With Punjab Extremists *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 76
Government Employees End Strike in Kashmir *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 77
Shekhar Notes LTTE's Presence in Tamil Nadu *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 77
Tamil Minister Refutes Arms Factory Charge *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 77
Afghan Exiles Concerned About Peace Settlement *[AFP]* ..... 77
Experimental Reactor Commissioned in Bombay *[Delhi TV]* ..... 78

**Iran**

Velayati on Help for Hostage Nationals in Lebanon *[IRNA]* ..... 78
Reaction to Najibullah Stop at Mashhad Airport ..... 78
Ministry Denies Talks Held *[IRNA]* ..... 78
Iran-Based Mujahidin Deny Meeting *[IRNA]* ..... 79
Further on Visit by Irish Foreign Minister ..... 79
Meets With Ministers *[IRNA]* ..... 79
Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani *[IRNA]* ..... 79
Signs Agreement, Departs *[IRNA]* ..... 79
Omani Official Visits To Discuss Gulf Situation ..... 80
Arrives 24 Nov *[IRNA]* ..... 80
Meets With Velayati *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 80
Departs; GCC Meeting Set *[IRNA]* ..... 80
Daily Questions Motives Behind U.S. Gulf Role *[IRNA]* ..... 80
*'Threatening' Bush Message Needs Correction *[TEHRAN TIMES 4 Nov]* ..... 81
Majles Calls For Worldwide Mobilization *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 81
*Aid to Israel Questioned After 'Atrocities' *[TEHRAN TIMES 5 Nov]* ..... 82
*Nabavi Editorial Criticizes Mohtashemi *[RESALAT 29 Oct]* ..... 82

**Pakistan**

Editorial Reviews Sharif Visit To UAE *[THE PAKISTAN TIMES 26 Nov]* ..... 83
Cabinet Reviews Foreign, Domestic Issues *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 84
Scientist Urges Building Nuclear Reactors *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 84
Caution Urged on Nuclear Issue Statements *[THE NATION 27 Nov]* ..... 85
Regional Solution for Nuclear Issue Examined *[THE MUSLIM 24 Nov]* ..... 85

**Sri Lanka**

Colombo Reports Heavy Fighting Around Mankulam ..... 86
Details on Battles *[Colombo International]* ..... 86
100 Soldiers, 196 LTTE Killed *[Colombo International]* ..... 86
Muslims Demand Separate Council for East Province *[Colombo International]* ..... 86

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria Form Joint Command

*JN2111224390 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 18 Nov 90 pp 1, 17*

[Excerpt] Cairo—AL-KHALIJ has learned that Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia have decided to set up a joint military command for their troops in Hafr al-Batin in the northeastern part of Saudi Arabia. This command will coordinate among the three Arab forces to face or implement any military action. It will also coordinate the command and control systems among the Arabs forces, while the Saudi command will coordinate with the international forces. The agreement was reached during the Egyptian, Syrian, and Saudi foreign ministers' meeting a week ago in the Syrian capital, Damascus. The three ministers are expected to hold a similar meeting in Cairo following U.S. President George Bush's tour of the region.

An Egyptian armored division will leave one of the Egyptian ports on the Red Sea late next week. It will include 400 M60-A3 tanks and M213 armored vehicles. It will also include a mechanized infantry brigade, an Air Defense formation, and military engineers.

Egyptian military sources said the Egyptian armored division had been expected to leave early last week. However, the Syrian armored division is continuing to arrive in the Saudi port of Yanbu' on the Red Sea and the forward units of this Syrian division are still taking their positions in Hafr al-Batin. The Egyptian division will be stationed next to the Syrian armored division. [passage omitted]

### Future Meeting Planned

*NC2611121690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1133 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—MENA has learned that a meeting of the Egyptian, Syrian, and Saudi foreign ministers will be held in Cairo on 3 December.

The conferees will continue the talks which began among the three countries' leaders to coordinate their stands on the Gulf crisis. They will also discuss the ongoing efforts to find a peaceful settlement to the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute.

### Arab League Condemns Israel on Jerusalem

*LD2111174190 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] The Arab League has condemned the Zionist entity's decision to create a Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs and the statement made by Yitzhaq Shamir, the entity's prime minister, last Sunday, in which he stressed that his government will keep the West Bank and Gaza Strip to settle new emigrants and to establish greater Israel.

A statement by the Arab League General Secretariat released in Tunis today said that the League condemned the creation of that ministry and Shamir's statement, and rejected in letter and spirit any statement that advocates the changing of the state of the city of Jerusalem in any way. At the end of its statement, the league demanded the implementation of UN resolutions on the Palestine issue.

### Maghreb Security Meeting Held in Algiers

*LD2511205190 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Following this morning's closed session, during which the agenda of the conference was drawn up, the participants in the Conference on the Arab Maghreb and Security in the Western Mediterranean resumed their meetings this evening by listening to three statements on the recent changes in East Europe and their effect on the Arab Maghreb, delivered by the representatives of Libya, Tunisia, and Morocco.

The Libyan representative spoke of the factors that led Gorbachev to introduce new ideas in the policy of the USSR, as a result of the deteriorating conditions in his country on all levels, particularly the economic level. He affirmed that the USSR, in the person of Gorbachev, was the creator of all these changes in East Europe and NATO.

The Tunisian and Moroccan representatives analyzed the causes of change in East Europe and the developments in the two military pacts and the effect of all this on the Mediterranean basin. They spoke of a number of political and economic factors as being the principle cause of all these changes in East Europe in particular and the world in general in the past two years.

Finally, the three representatives spoke of the position of the Arab Maghreb region in the light of these changes and the measures the region could take in dealing with these changes.

### Algeria's Bendjedid Addresses Maghreb Conference

*LD2611130890 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Speech by Algerian Prime Minister Chadli Bendjedid at the opening of the Arab Maghreb Security Conference in Algiers on 25 November—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Excellencies, honorable guests, ministers: I am honored to have the opportunity to chair the opening session of this meeting, organized by the National Institute for Comprehensive Strategic Studies and entitled: The Maghreb and Security in the Western Mediterranean, with the participation of civilian and military experts from the Arab Maghreb Union.

I also take this opportunity to welcome our guests who have come to discuss issues of paramount importance during this meeting. This meeting is the very first of its kind to take place at the Maghreb level, during an international phase particularly characterized by

numerous and significant changes, differences, and tensions that directly or indirectly concern the Western Mediterranean.

Algeria welcomes any collective view regarding such a sensitive issue with the aim of harmonizing our stances and taking organized positions, the principles of which were laid down by the AMU at leadership level.

Before preempting your proceedings, please allow me to discuss certain issues and pinpoint some areas of contemplation and thought. Everyone is aware of the huge significance of security issues and the need to bolster cooperation in this field. We must work out a common defense policy strategy, and start coordinating our actions and stances regarding crucial issues of our existence and future.

Amongst the basic action needed in this field is that of opening a gradual path for strategic initiatives at the highest levels. The significant change that took place in East Europe approximately two years ago, the consequences of this brought about a new vision of security in Europe and the world, and continued and fast growing differences in the case of the Gulf, in addition to their yet unknown repercussions regarding the whole Arab world, compel us to deal with these matters with determination and realism.

The first problem facing us at the moment is how to show our readiness to put an end to the factors of imbalance that are obstructing our independence of our region, and its overall development. Therefore, today we should follow a difficult path in order to reduce the elements of pressure on the economic and social balance in the Maghreb. This burden and these pressures are manifested in the existence of a notable majority of youths amongst our citizens that forms a force as well as a hinderance for the future.

The shortage of agricultural products threatens food self-sufficiency in its capacity as a long-term factor within the factors of our independence. Undoubtedly, in addition to these fundamental factors that play a part in weakening our economies and still make our countries heavily reliant on emigration, one should mention factors of poverty and unemployment. All these factors imposed on our destiny call for the adoption of a comprehensive report based on the economic system. That is, all Maghreb leaders should have innovative and firm views on how to overcome these problems through a style based on consultations, grassroots, solidarity, and mutual cooperation.

This is what would raise us to a sufficient level to make our independence and self-defense secure and respected.

In this way we should really present the problems concerning security and development. While some people are afraid that tomorrow the Mediterranean could become a channel for extensive emigration for those who are rushing toward the north in order to escape famine, poverty, disease, and backwardness, I would like to stress that the Arab Maghreb has all the manpower and economic resources which, if used properly, could enable it to cooperate equally and fairly with the countries around it of Mediterranean Europe, which is linked to it by rich and fruitful history.

Therefore, we in the Arab Maghreb should undertake all joint actions for the benefit of our citizens before anything else. I am sure that there is a possibility for achieving fact, appropriate development.

We must learn how to avoid the conflicts of the past. This, as you know, has sometimes led to creative initiatives, and hence nothing will stop us—the countries of the Arab Maghreb—from establishing a positive course on the basis of simple principles which have previously secured the leap forward of other regions of the world. These principles are the development of our culture; uniting the market; financial solidarity; and freedom of movement for individuals and goods. We ourselves have the ability to undertake such initiatives which, in addition to making us increase our development, should make us increase the Arab Maghreb exchanges with the rest of the world and secure the regular flow of trade and finance in both directions. This would benefit the continuous process of correcting balances.

Undoubtedly, the search for a new compatibility of views would make us reconsider the old security plans and draw up new ones. The repercussions of these on our region would be crucial, whether we like it or not.

Therefore it is not enough to understand the extent of these changes. We should also analyze their practical repercussions, especially in the field of the strategy of superpower redeployment in the various fields. This requires that the security of the Arab Maghreb be determined through a comprehensive understanding which is not restricted to military security.

It is now clear that that understanding is primarily based on the following factors: The policy of the superpowers in the field of disarmament is primarily aimed at declaring the end of arming with traditional weapons. This means disarming the weak. Second, the policy is aimed at developing new technologies and manufacturing new generations of advanced, accurate, destructive, and vital weapons. This is a field from which we might be naturally excluded, and we might be prevented from obtaining these weapons. Third and last, the return of military and interventionist policies represents a direct threat to our countries. Our independence has become exposed to the danger of retreat if our joint alertness and understanding disappear.

However, the most important factor undoubtedly stems from a new understanding of the threat from some of the hegemony powers. Therefore I hope that we would not be seen through our numerous problems in development, debts, bad training, and various kinds of conflicts as the principal source of lack of security and armed threat to the world.

The CSCE which was held in Paris, after declaring the end of Yalta, called for establishing a new world order stemming from the symbolic picture of the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of nonalignment.

What raised concern is the fact that the collapse of the Berlin Wall has opened the way for the emergence of a terrifying wall between the North and South, based on economic, cultural, and religious factors.

It is a strange development which assumes a shape that rejects the right to differ and which appears at the doors of the 21st century.

To any one who wonders about cooperation and security we say that the efforts of the Arab Maghreb should not ignore the realities of international pressure. The CSCE which was held recently in Paris announced the end of the Cold War, the end of the era of two world blocs, and the emergence of a new world order. This was confirmed in all the addresses to the conference. This makes it necessary for us to think about it for more than one reason.

Naturally we might imagine that the development from a world based on polarization to one world might be at our expense if we do not reassert ourselves and our real defensive abilities. In fact, in the plans for organizing the new world order the other countries of the universe imagine a center of the universe around which they are organized in concentric circles according to the international divisions which have been decided upon. What are the countries which form the radial axis? What are the other countries which are in the first circle or the second or the third? What are the nations which would then be in the outer circle and relegated to the margins as poor laboring nations in a world which will be richer and more prosperous? And what is the status of the Arab Maghreb in this international architecture?

If I have asked these questions, then the mere fact of asking them confirms that the Mediterranean, which preoccupies us today, should be a place of fertile peace and cooperation, embodying a joint destiny in which both the North and South record actions which help in preventing the new world order from being an order of open and continuous conflict.

This problem has prompted our sincere willingness and abilities to consolidate the principal compatible development axes of the Arab Maghreb and to include them within an international network for joint exchanges which would be mutual beneficial for both sides.

Therefore, this new reality should make us once more analyze the collection of threats against our region. We should distinguish between those which are due to our internal contradictions, and could be quickly overcome, and those which are due to the contradictions that make us all face various external threats.

Such a meeting has the advantage of presenting the problems objectively and seriously to the Arab Maghreb experts. Undoubtedly, looking into the Arab Maghreb security proglems, with their connections with the security of the western Mediterranean, requires the explanation of some concepts which have remained in use until now, and perhaps require something further, such as the peace zone, nuclear-free zone, nonalignment, collective security, and independent security.

Moreover, we think that the concept of the Arab Maghreb is very clear as far as we are concerned, while the concept of the western Mediterranean is the opposite of this. It seems to need an accurate deepening through the concept of cooperation among the neighboring countries of this part of the Mediterranean.

In this context it seems imperative to me to avoid three obstacles. The western Mediterranean concept should not isolate us from the eastern part of it and should not distract us from the great attention which we should give to the Palestinian issue, in particular, and the issues of the east, in general. However, we should not forget that the predominant requirement is commitment to cooperation in order to remove the danger of confrontation and to consolidate the gains of economic development. The cornerstone requirement around which all the initiatives should be arranged is security.

It is worth recalling in this connection the numerous attempts by the Maghreb countries to open a frank, serious, and long-term dialogue with our colleagues in the North. One concludes from their various meetings that there is a need to take the security of the Mediterranean into consideration when trying to search for security in the region, and make economic development a cooperation factor between the two sides. These are the general ideas that we wanted to put to your proceedings. I wish you all success and I hope that this meeting will be followed by other important meetings, based on a strong, prosperous, united Maghreb which will be in charge of its own security and the security of its part of the Mediterranean. Peace be upon you.

## Arab Ministers Differ at Nonaligned Meeting

*NC2411125590 Paris AFP in English*
*1040 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Tunis, Nov 24 (AFP)—Intra-Arab differences from the Gulf crisis have poisoned the air at a four-day conference here of Non-Aligned Movement labor ministers from around the world, correspondents said Saturday.

The meeting, held to discuss means of boosting development in non-aligned countries facing economic difficulties, instead turned into a public squabble on the Gulf situation by Arab participants.

The conference's final statement was the subject of protracted discussions much of Friday and delayed the closing session by several hours.

Egypt, backed by Gulf states, proposed the inclusion of a paragraph on "the rights of workers victimized by the Gulf crisis."

A drafting committee was finally asked to draw up this text and Yugoslavia—currently chairing the Non-Aligned Movement—was appointed to oversee it.

The final version, hammered out by Egyptian and Yugoslav delegates, urged "authorities in question to respect the rights of all workers who fell victim to this crisis, particularly in the state of Kuwait."

Iraqi delegate Umid Midhat termed this "unacceptable political posturing by the conference" and insisted that the paragraph be limited to generalities, not specific matters.

Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2 and subsequently annexed the emirate.

Hundreds of thousands of foreign workers—many of them Egyptians and Asians—have since then fled Kuwait and Iraq.

The Yemeni representative at the conference also complained about the plight of hundreds of thousands of his compatriots who returned home after Saudi Arabia cancelled their privileges, reportedly over Sanaa's support for Iraq in the crisis.

An Asian delegate told reporters the debate that emerged at Friday's session appeared to be "more of a settling of scores between Arabs than anything else."

### Palestinian Sources View Arab Mini-Summit

*NC2211130690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Tunis, 22 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian sources have reported that Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat will visit Saudi Arabia next week as part of the ongoing endeavors to hold an Arab mini-summit.

The newspaper AL-SAHAFAH, published the news today citing these sources and did not rule out the possiblity that Moroccan King Hassan II might pay a visit to Saudi Arabia and Baghdad for that purpose.

The Palestinian sources quoted Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as recently affirming that he is ready to hold negotiations on Kuwait in return for obtaining an international pledge to resolve the Middle East issue. The same sources expect the mini-summit to bring together eight Arab countries, but the names of the eight were not revealed.

## Palestinian Affairs

### Palestine Liberation Front Threatens U.S. Interests

*OW2711110090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1025 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 27 KYODO—The leader of a radical Palestinian faction threatened Tuesday to attack U.S. interests around the world if Washington tries to dislodge Iraq from Kuwait by force.

"War has no borders," Mohammad Abbas [Abu 'Abbas], leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), told KYODO NEWS SERVICE in an interview. "We have to defend ourselves with all our abilities."

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, condemned by most of the world for his August 2 invasion of Kuwait, has become a hero to many Palestinians. He has called the invasion a blow for Palestinian rights, and many Palestinians see him as standing up to the Western powers and Israel.

"We really trust Husayn's support for us," said Abbas, whose group belongs to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

"Our real enemy is Israel, but the interest of America is equal to the interest of Israel," he said. "We never considered America an enemy before, but now it is our enemy."

Abbas planned two commando raids on Israeli beaches May 30, leading the United States to break off contacts with the PLO.

He is also on a U.S. blacklist as the mastermind of the 1985 seizure of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro, during which Leon Klinghoffer, an elderly American in a wheelchair, was shot and then pushed off the deck into the sea.

"For our defense, we have the option and idea to start military activities outside Palestine if America starts (war) against Iraq," Abbas said.

He claimed that an offer by Iraq to leave Kuwait was scuttled by Egypt in early August after U.S. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney arrived in Saudi Arabia.

Abbas said Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and PLO representatives were set to meet to approve the plan until Egyptian President Husni Mubarak called a separate conference to denounce Iraq's invasion, ending the possibility of an Arab solution to the crisis.

He praised the Japanese people for their "very wise" opposition to playing a military role in the Persian Gulf. A proposal to send members of Japan's Self-Defense Forces overseas as part of a "U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps" was recently scrapped in the Diet.

Abbas also said no lasting peace can be achieved in the Middle East without a solution to the Palestinian Issue.

### Commentary Refutes Report Concerning PLO Aid

*JN2311124690 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Brothers, the WAFA-PALESTINE NEWS AGENCY political editor has commented on a report published Monday by the [Egyptian] AL-AHRAM newspaper, stating that the PLO provided huge financial aid to Syrian, Tunisian, and Algerian opposition elements residing abroad and held contacts with Arab opposition organizations to agitate public opinion to promote Iraq's objectives.

The political editor says: We all realize the importance of the rumor and its influence on public opinion. When used creatively, it constitutes an important weapon, so much so that it may lead to victory in war. But when used deceptively and stupidly, it backfires: it neither wins a war nor causes slander; rather, it leaves contempt and bitterness and can best be described as harmful. Because we are not in a state of war with Egypt, and because we do not accept or wish to respond to the provocations to which the Egyptian authorities are dragging us, we refrain from responding to the Egyptian slander campaign. But when things reach their limit and the writers border on madness and stupidity, we can say that the PLO cannot provide money to Syrian, Tunisian, and Algerian opposition, as AL-AHRAM propagates, and as those who receive floods of money to harm the PLO are promoting.

The second reason [no first reason as heard] is that it is no longer secret that the PLO is experiencing financial problems because of the massive loss incurred by the Palestinians due to the Gulf crisis and because several sides—and there is no room to mention them now—stopped payment. The third reason is that the rumor, if it is true in Syria's case—and it is not true here as well—cannot apply to Tunisia which hosts the Palestinian leadership, and to Algeria which has never betrayed the Palestinians. Algeria and Tunisia support Palestinians under all circumstances.

It remains to say that the political street is not naive or stupid as people who believe it to be so are imagining. The Gulf crisis has sorted out positions as the knife would do, especially the positions of those who are now turning their faces toward the United States for prayers, with heads bowed in humiliation. If this is the case with the rulers, what is the case with those [not further identified] who receive bags of money, in cash and in checks?

## Egypt

### Mubarak 'Strongly Rejected' 'Arafat Overture

*PM2711130190 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 21-27 Nov 90 p 11*

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Informs 'Arafat: Time Not Right for Visiting Cairo"]

[Text] AL-MAJALLAH has learned that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat recently sent a personal message to President Husni Mubarak via an Arab intermediary who visited Cairo and met with the Egyptian president. The Palestinian president asked President Mubarak to allow him to visit Cairo—at the head of a delegation comprising some PLO figures—to correct Palestinian-Egyptian relations, restore them to their normal status, and discuss the Palestinian leadership's position on the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait face to face with President Mubarak in order to dispell all the [false] information and reports received about the position toward Egypt of 'Arafat and PLO members, as well as the criticisms and personal insults unleashed against some Egyptian officials during 'Arafat's meetings with some Arab leaders and figures in the capitals which he visits.

'Arafat's request was strongly rejected by President Mubarak, who informed the Arab intermediary that the time is not right now, "but we may look into the matter later."

### Sudanese Ambassador Denies Reports of Coup

*NC2611190890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1738 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—'Izz-al-Din Hamid, Sudan's ambassador in Cairo, has denied that a coup took place in Sudan. He said that situation in Sudan is stable and no disturbances had taken place there.

In a related statement, 'Abd-al-Rahman Hamzah, media attache at the Sudanese Embassy in Cairo, noted that he had telephoned the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, which affirmed that there is absolutely no truth to the ongoing rumors that a coup had taken place in Sudan.

### Papers Consider UN Moves, Warnings to Saddam

*NC2711132490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0854 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA)—Cairo newspapers continue to show interest in the Gulf crisis which resulted from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait with all of its ramifications.

Within this context, the newspapers in their editorials today refer to the ongoing contacts and consultations to issue a UN Security Council resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq to end its occupation of Kuwait.

Under the headline "The Last Chance Resolution," AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the resolution to be submitted to the Security Council on Thursday is considered the last chance for a peaceful solution. The paper asks: Will the Iraqi leadership benefit from this chance?

The paper notes that this resolution, the 11th to be issued by the Security Council since the 2 August invasion, may be the most decisive and most expressive manifestation of the international community's will in rejecting the invasion and aggression in light of the current international developments that ended the cold war.

In its editorial entitled "The Blade of the Knife," AL-AHRAM says that the efforts to secure a new Security Council resolution on the use of force in the Gulf crisis are tantamount to a new warning to President Saddam to quickly abandon his intransigent stand. This warning is in addition to the implicit U.S. warning apparent in the changing of the status of the Saudi Arabian forces from a defensive to an offensive posture.

The paper points out that, even after all of this, there is still a tendency to want to address a final warning to Saddam so that he may verify the opposing front's seriousness in applying the Security Council resolutions and in securing a withdrawal and reinstatement of legitimacy if need be by force.

AL-AHRAM asserts that these developments indicate that the world is walking a fine line on the blade of a knife as no one can be certain what the Iraqi ruler's position will be after these successive warnings.

The paper asks: Will Saddam decide to concede to these pressures without conditions, or in despair will he decide to launch a war in every direction.

The paper points out that those who predict the first option believe that a response is possible based on the Iranian precedent. However, this prediction is marred by the fact that Saddam's appeasement of Iran was not due to the pressure of a confrontation with Iran, as is the case now with the opposing front.

In conclusion AL-AHRAM says that those who expect the second option note that Saddam has not responded positively to the pressure imposed by the blockade, but rather has lashed out in anger. The paper asks: In this case will he yield to the warnings?" [passage omitted]

### Papers View Gulf Crisis, Mubarak Efforts

*NC2511090990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0818 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Cairo dailies assert in their editorials today that there is a firm international consensus to condemn the Iraqi invasion and occupation and restore Kuwait's legitimate government. They note that the clouds of war hang over the international scene. They also praise President Husni Mubarak's intensive efforts at the Arab and international levels to save Iraq

and its people from the consequences of the Baghdad ruler's reckless invasion of Kuwait.

In an editorial entitled "The International Powers and the War Decision," AL-AHRAM says the clouds of war hang over the international scene and the United States and Britain are making strenuous efforts to persuade China, France, and the USSR to approve a UN Security Council resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq.

AL-AHRAM points out that the United States and Britain totally reject the emergence of any major regional power that will threaten security and stability. They are also opposed to allowing aggression to go unpunished.

China views the issue through an international perspective in light of its revolutionary heritage, while France views it through the perspective of respect for international legitimacy and the need to avoid the use of force to resolve conflicts. The paper says that the USSR believes that any military action in the region could undermine security. It also fears any military operations of an unknown extent near its southern border.

Despite these differences, the paper concludes that all these countries share common values that include respect for international legitimacy and a refusal to accept a change in the status quo by force of arms. It is these common values that have been the force behind the concerted international opposition to Iraq's aggression and its intransigence vis-a-vis all existing and potential prospects for a political settlement.

Under the headline "A Question of Principles and Morals First and Foremost," AL-AKHBAR writes that all the world's politicians and peoples are well aware how hard President Husni Mubarak has worked on the Arab and international levels to save Iraq and its people from the consequences of the Baghdad ruler's recklessness.

The paper continues: In the first weeks after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the exposure of the Jordanian king's shameful role in the ignoble conspiracy against a peaceful Arab country, and in the midst of conducting his frenzied shuttle missions to defend the crime which dealt a mortal blow to the Arab nation, King Husayn—in one of the many lies he uttered against Egypt—alleged that President Husni Mubarak was inciting U.S. President George Bush to launch a swift attack against Iraq to force its ruler to withdraw his forces from Kuwait.

AL-AKBHAR also notes that it was possible that some people believed him, either because they were naive or because they could not imagine that an Arab king and leader would stoop to such a level of falsehood.

It is no secret that President Mubarak's continuous contacts and efforts with the leaders of various major powers, notably the United States and the USSR, have had a tangible effect in encouraging patience and giving Saddam Husayn ever more time to return to the senses he lost in a moment of fatal vanity. [passage omitted]

## Argentine Senate President Supports Gulf Stand

*PY2411233290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1438 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, 24 Nov (EFE)—Argentine Senate President Eduardo Menem said in Cairo today that Argentina and Egypt agree in their viewpoints on the Persian Gulf crisis because the Argentine Government "advocates the UN Security Council resolutions, sent troops to the Persian Gulf, and joined the economic embargo against Iraq."

Diplomatic sources told EFE that Eduardo Menem, brother of Argentine President Carlos Menem, met today with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, with whom he analyzed recent events in the Middle East and bilateral relations.

After the meeting with Majid, Menem, who arrived in Cairo yesterday, said they "especially analyzed the situation of Palestinians living in the occupied territories, and the need to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict." Menem also expressed thanks for Egypt's position on the Malvinas Islands conflict.

The sources said Menem also met with Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, with whom he discussed South-South relations.

Menem will end his visit to Cairo tomorrow. He said that the Argentine president "is very interested in visiting Egypt and will probably visit this country in 1991." A meeting between Menem and Agriculture Minister Yusuf Wali of the ruling National Democratic Party is scheduled for this afternoon.

Argentina sent 300 military men, one corvette, and one frigate to the Persian Gulf.

## AL-AHRAM Examines Government's Role in Gulf

*NC2311215090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1033 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Nov (MENA)—AL-AHRAM says that Egypt's spontaneous reaction to the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait is not the result of political or economic deals, nor inspired by self-interest as Baghdad's propaganda claims. Egypt's stand is a principled and unshifting one. Egypt supports the right of the Kuwaiti people to restore their land, sovereignty, independence, and legitimate government.

In his weekly article, "On Bush's Visit to the Region," Ibrahim Nafi', board chairman and chief editor of AL-AHRAM, says that Egypt's stand on the Gulf crisis has not changed since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Egypt believes that the elements of pressure on Iraq should be given the opportunity to work. As Nafi' writes, these elements include diplomatic efforts, economic sanctions, and military pressures embodied in the deployment of the multinational forces against Iraq.

Egypt has never applauded for war against Iraq; Egypt has not urged such a war and has underscored the need to

give a peaceful solution its best chance. However, time is not on the side of peace, asserts Nafi'.

The AL-AHRAM chief editor maintains that if force becomes the only option to liberate Kuwait, the UN Security Council should issue a resolution sanctioning the use of force for that end. Nafi' voices the belief that if the UN Security Council passes a resolution authorizing the use of force to liberate Kuwait, Egypt will have no choice but to comply with this resolution and agree to participate in any operations aimed to liberate Kuwait. Nafi' says that Egypt's position in this respect will be in harmony with its commitment to all the resolutions passed by the UN Security Council since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait caused the current crisis in the Gulf.

Nafi' says that Egypt will also be ready to participate in an Arab peace force that may act as buffer between Iraq and Kuwait. If formed such a force will stay in Kuwait for a suitable period to protect that country after Iraq withdraws its troops.

Egypt's policies are inspired by its belief that the guarantees for Arab security should be provided by the Arab region and its people, not by outside elements.

Nafi' adds that Egypt is also willing to participate in any Arab summit aimed at formulating an Arab solution that could banish the threat of war from the region, on the condition that the resolutions reached by that summit agree with those passed by the UN Security Council concerning the Gulf. The summit should limit its works to a discussion of the situation following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. It should avoid relapsing into vituperations that will not benefit anyone or a discussion of concessions that will not be acceptable to anyone.

According to Nafi', Egypt is opposed to making concessions before Iraq's withdrawal as well as to any attempts to reward aggression and to diminish the sovereignty of Arab countries, for this would encourage countries to wage aggression in order to gain concessions from other countries.

Noting that the Gulf crisis will be the main topic at the talks between U.S. President George Bush and President Mubarak in Cairo today, Nafi' says that we still call on the United States to give peaceful solutions ample time. We are trying to ensure that measures to safeguard pan-Arab security stem from the Arab region, not from abroad. He expressed his belief that after the liberation of Kuwait, the Arab region will witness new thinking and situations that will require continued efforts to convene an international conference to write off the debts of Egypt and the Arab countries and to encourage the advanced industrial countries to contribute more to bolstering the Arab countries and achieving comprehensive stability.

Nafi' feels the Iraqi claims about the writing off of Egypt's military debts are part of the Baghdad trumpets' trivialities against Egypt, its leadership, and its people because of the principled Egyptian stand on the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. He pointed out that the negotiations to write off the military debts to the United States began in 1983 and went a long way before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. He said that if the U.S. decision to write off the debts was made after the Iraqi invasion, Egypt is not to blame when Iraq, with its expansionist ambitions and betrayal of its pledge to Kuwait, provided new proof to the whole world of Egypt's importance in safeguarding stability in the region.

Nafi' calls on Iraq to withdraw its forces from Kuwait because it is the aggressor and because the withdrawal would be in the Arab interest. He noted that Iraq withdrew its forces from Iran after an eight-year bloody war. He said that Egypt always seeks peace and renounces wars, and is currently sincerely working to avert a confrontation between Iraq and the international community in order to save the Iraqi people's lives and Arab interests. This stance is in line with Egypt's call to Washington to take a firm stand on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's latest statement about Israel's expansionist dreams—this statement demonstrates backward and worn thinking that is not in line with the new international order. In this resepct, he stressed the need to convene an international conference after the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait is ended in order to return to the Palestinian people their legitimate rights, liberate the occupied Arab territories, and establish strong foundations for regional stability. He said that if we now refuse to link the efforts to resolve the Kuwaiti and Palestinian problems, this is because such a link would obstruct a solution to both problems and delay them. He stressed that after Kuwait is liberated, the situation would be much better for concentrating the international community's efforts to solve the Palestinian problem.

### Armament Industry Chief Views Gulf Performance

*PM2711105990 Cairo AL-ANBA' in Arabic 23 Nov 90 p 2*

[Interview with Major General Dr. Engineer Muhammad al-Ghamrawi Dawud, "chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces Armament Authority," by Widad Hijab; place and date not given—formerly Kuwait AL-ANBA']

[Excerpts] [Hijab] How would you assess the role of the Egyptian forces currently present in Saudi Arabia, and are they familiar with the nature of the operations theater there?

[Dawud] The Egyptian forces were sent to Saudi Arabia in accordance with a political decision, and their task was defined in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the extraordinary Arab summit conference. They represent an integrated group of forces (joint corps) capable of carrying out the tasks assigned to them, relying on their intrinsic capabilities. They have high combat standards. They represent a living example of the creditable level which the Egyptian Armed Forces

have attained, that is in terms of high combat readiness which enables them to carry out any emergency tasks. Undoubtedly the speed at which these forces were dispatched to their zones in Saudi Arabia is clear evidence of that. Anyone who follows what is published daily by the press and what is broadcast by the various radios about these forces' level and daily exercises can easily sense these forces' high morale, resolution, and determination to carry out their tasks.

As for the operations theater, it does not differ greatly from the operations theater in which our forces are trained and in which they have participated in past wars. [passage omitted]

[Hijab] How prepared are the Egyptian forces for a chemical warfare?

[Dawud] Protecting the forces against chemical warfare is one of the basic principles to which we adhere in wars. It is also one of the lessons learned from the experiences of previous wars. This has been observed when planning and conducting the training of all our elements in the Armed Forces, including the elements present in Saudi Arabia. They are provided with all the equipment necessary to enable them to fight and confront any hostile chemical intervention.

[Hijab] But to what extent has Egypt succeeded in manufacturing arms and spare parts?

[Dawud] In fact the military industry is viewed from two angles: an angle related to Egyptian national security, which concerns the fulfillment of our Armed Forces' requirements for various types of arms and ammunition. This angle is also linked to the pan-Arab security angle, namely through participation in meeting the requirements of friendly Arab and African states. As for the second angle, it is related to the economic feasibility of that industry. Generally, I emphasize, Egypt now has a complete military-industrial base comprising both the national military production organization, the Arab Industrialization Organization, and the Armed Forces factories. The political, military, and military-production leaderships have espoused the principle and policy of bolstering military industries and entering into advanced military products like radar, armored vehicles, aircraft, and missiles. In general, Egyptian military industry has been able to meet a large proportion of the Armed Forces' needs in terms of the range of weapons, including heavy weapons.

[Hijab] What about exporting Egyptian arms to some states? How can that be realized without its being exposed to pressures or policies from other arms-exporting states?

[Dawud] Egyptian arms exports and supplies are governed principally by Egypt's foreign policy. All Egyptian arms sales so far have been concluded with Arab states bound to Egypt by ties of brotherhood and kinship or with African states bound to Egypt by friendship through the official African organizations. On that basis we can eliminate the concept of pressure or politics from other arms-exporting states. The process of exporting Egyptian arms is governed by free competition between the Egyptian producer and other producers, and that is subject to capability, quality, and price. Egyptian products often win. [passage omitted]

### Article Reviews Mubarak Visit to Syria, Libya

*PM2111095090 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 17 Nov 90 p 1*

[Article by Jamal Badawi: "On Return Journey from Libya and Syria Mubarak Says: We Are Doing Our Utmost To Avert a Massacre"]

[Text] President Husni Mubarak's plane made only two stops during his tour which began Tuesday morning and ended Thursday evening: Libya and Syria. Naturally the Gulf crisis was the main topic in President Mubarak's talks with Chairman al-Qadhdhafi in Surt and President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus. Naturally, the two countries [Libya and Syria] differ in their assessment of the Gulf crisis, its causes, and ways of settling it. Whereas the Syrian leadership is clear in its hostility to Saddam Husayn for reasons that are older than the Gulf crisis, the Libyan leadership is not so firm but it takes a rejectionist attitude towards all the conflicting forces in the Gulf. It rejects Saddam, it rejects Kuwait and all symbols of the region, and of course it rejects the U.S. presence there.

During our 24 hours in Surt, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's birthplace, we discovered that there were two views of the Gulf crisis. One is a "revolutionary" view that forgives and even blesses what Saddam Husayn did to Kuwait and maintains that it was the least he could do. This view, represented by second-in-command 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud and a group of the 1 September Revolution youths, stems from absolute hostility to the United States, the great Satan, as Ayatollah Khomeyni used to call it. It is based more on naive ideological analysis than on reality and an assessment of the enemy's strenth. Fortunately, however, this emotional revolutionary view is not the only one within the Libyan leadership. There is another view, a "sensible" one represented by Col. al-Qadhdhafi, which respects reality and reason. If Libya suffered the impact of the U.S. air raid on Libya a few years ago, what chance do the Iraqi forces have against the current massive U.S. buildup? How could any reasonable person equate Iraq's military power with that of the United States, unless he wants to drag the Iraqi forces into a massacre?

This sensible Libyan view has produced contributions to peaceful solutions through several initiatives from al-Qadhdhafi which, to sum them up, frankly and sincerely condemn Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, condemn the foreign presence in the Gulf, call for the simultaneous withdrawal of both, and so forth.

These two conflicting views were featured in the talks between President Mubarak and Chairman al-Qadhdhafi, which were also attended in part by Major

'Abd-al-Salam Jallud who adopted the revolutionary view. Col. al-Qadhafi rebutted Jallud when he said that Saddam Husayn was capable of defeating the United States.

All this and other signs indicate that Libya's position of condemning Saddam Husayn has not changed. The reports that Libya is now leaning toward Iraq and has abandoned its balanced position that are circulating in the capitals that support Saddam Husayn are not true. A few days before President Mubarak's visit, al-Qadhdhafi received a delegation representing Islamic tendencies and parties in Egypt and the Arab world. Their aim was to persuade al-Qadhafi to change his position, but they were surprised to find him insisting on condemnation of the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and launching a fierce attack on the Islamic parties which support Saddam Husayn. The Iraqi dictator was apparently surprised by this Libyan position and had to send Deputy Prime Minister Sa'dun Hammadi to explore the situation and try to shift al-Qadhdhafi's position in Iraq's favor. But the mission failed and Hammadi returned with the realization that Libya was firm in its positions, opposed to any attempt to obstruct the Arab League's return to Egypt, and insistent that the Arab League secretary general be an Egyptian as stipulated in the Arab League's charter.

The situation in Syria was different from that in Libya. There we were in a country where there was no disagreement on the attitude to Saddam Husayn. The hostility [to Saddam] was clear and the dispute deep-rooted, dating back to the split within the Ba'th Party. Syria is a neighbor of Iraq. A whisper in Baghdad would have an echo in Damascus. That is why they [the Syrians] are very sensitive about what might happen in Iraq. They believe that a war in the Gulf would cause shrapnel to fall in Syria. I do not mean bomb or missile shrapnel; I am talking about the shrapnel of historical, geographical, and demographic changes. They believe that the first shot in the Gulf war would be followed immediately by an Israeli move to occupy Jordan and set up a Palestinian state there to absorb the West Bank Arabs and make room for the Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union. They also do not exclude the possibility of Israel's seizing the opportunity to deal a blow to Syria to smash its military might, which has been growing over the past 10 years, to ensure that there is no formidable power close to Israel.

These fears go hand in hand with a desire for the destruction of Saddam Husayn and the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait. But how is all this to be achieved when there is not even a glimmer of hope that the Iraqi dictator will withdraw? The peaceful option seems impossible and the military option entails risks for Syria itself. How can this difficult situation be resolved? There is no hope of a way out of this dilemma without a change within Iraq itself that will end this entire current situation. The party would then be over, the Iraqi forces would go back home, and the U.S. forces would return to their country. What is being said about compromise solutions, such as Kuwait's ceding some of its territory to Iraq in return for an Iraqi withdrawal, is impossible even if theoretically Kuwait were to agree to it—Iran would not permit the presence of Iraqi forces on Bubiyan island, which is only a stone's throw from the Iranian border. Furthermore, the idea of forfeiting territory in return for a withdrawal is totally rejected because it would mean rewarding the aggressor for his aggression.

Syria agrees with the Egyptian position that the peace option should be given as long as possible to work and that the military option should be avoided, because both countries are aware of the dangers and consequences of military action for Iraq and the whole region. President Mubarak has pointed out in this connection that the military power concentrated in the Gulf is awesome and frightening. He told us on the way back to Cairo that his awareness of the dangers of military confrontation made him as determined as he could possibly be to avert the specter of war. He said that on his latest visit to the Egyptian forces in Saudi Arabia, he learned that the U.S. Air Force is capable of carrying out 9,000-11,000 sorties in the first few hours of the fighting. He expressed regret at the reports exaggerating the strength of the Iraqi forces and repeating Saddam Husayn's claims that he could form 10 military divisions within a week, when the most basic principles of military mobilization show that it would take months to prepare even one division. But some have chosen to promote such talk in order to draw Iraq into a devastating war. That is why, the president said, I asked the U.S. secretary of state to give Iraq three more months, in the hope that Saddam Husayn would return to his senses and spare his forces the threat of annihilation.

I then put the following direct question to the president: What would be the position of our forces now stationed in Hafar al-Batin if such a devastating war did break out?

The president said: First, let me tell you that our forces went there to defend Saudi Arabia, not to declare war. Second, the battles would concentrate on liberating Kuwait from the Iraqi forces.... Such a war would not last more than a matter of hours.... An offensive war of this kind would not require the participation of our forces, which are defensive forces.

I said to the president: That means that the Iraqi forces would pay a high price.

The president replied: That is why we are doing our utmost to eliminate the specter of war and avert a massacre.

I said: Let us hope so. We shall see.

### Murad Writes on Elections' Constitutionality

*JN2111121190 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 19 Nov 90 pp 1,2*

["The Opposition's Opinion" column by Liberal Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad: "What Happened After the Elections?"]

[Text] Most of the Egyptian opposition parties—Labor, Liberals, Muslim Brotherhood, and Wafd—have decided to boycott the People's Assembly elections because the government did not respond to their demands about guaranteeing the freedom and honesty of the elections, demands which are sanctioned under the Constitution and the electoral law. The first demand was judicial supervision of the elections under Article 88 of the Constitution. As we know, voting means asking the voter to mark the name of the person he wishes to elect; thus it is the most personal aspect of the elections. The government contended that it did not have enough judges to supervise the 22,000 or so central and provincial election committees. The opposition parties said they would be satisfied with the present number of judicial officials in the various government departments—Public Prosecution, State Council, and High Constitutional Court—of which there are more than 7,000. Since the 22,000 election committees are distributed among 6,000 polling stations, each one of these officials would supervise one polling station, which has about has four election committees.

The second demand was that the voter must prove his identity before the chairman of the election committee. This is a natural and well-known norm. He can do that by producing a family or personal identity card, or any other official document establishing his identity such as a driving licence, a passport, a weapon licence, or any other official document.

The third demand was that the government should announce through the interior minister or the prime minister that it would not arrest the representatives of the opposition candidates on the eve of the elections and then release them in the afternoon on election day. The presence of these representative is permissible under the law on the exercise of human rights.

Well, the government did not respond to any of the aforementioned constitutional or legal demands, which proved its insistence on monpolizing power and rigging the elections.

What happened after the last elections and the People's Assembly meetings? The opposition parties contended the constitutionality of the electroal law. The grievance was accepted by the administrative justice and referred to the Higher Constitutional Court. Administrative justice does not supervise elections as stipulated in the Constitution. A magistrate sitting in a police commissioner's office cannot supervise voting taking place in a 100 or so polling stations in one single constitutency. Let us now go back to the constitutionality or nonconstitutionality of elections. The government knows full well that two regulations were issued concerning the nonconstitutionality of People's Assembly elections in 1984 and 1987, which prompted President Mubarak to dissolve the Assembly in both those years and call voters to new elections. So, we are not prepared to enter into a new whirlwind between the government and the opposition.

In conclusion, I feel duty-bound to draw President Mubarak's attention to the following points:

1. President Mubarak's withdrawal from the National Democratic Party [NDP] has become a sweeping popular demand. The president should investigate this point in one way or another, because under the present constitution the post of the president and his wider powers have given the NDP capabilities which it should not enjoy.

2. The NDP has made a grave mistake and has placed President Mubarak himself in a very embarrassing situation when it nominated only two Copts among a total of 444 party nominees in 222 constitutencies. This is only .5 percent when Copts consitute 10 percent of the Egyptian population. I do no know how the NDP has made such a grave error. Morever, the NDP has only four women among its 444 nominees. This is only 1 percent when women constitute half of Egyptian society. In 1956—that is a third of a century ago—there were eight women in the Egyptian assembly. This is also another grave error by the NDP. There is only one explanation for the errors on the representation of Copts and women. The NDP considers itself the party with absolute power and authority in Egypt, whether the opposition likes it or not and whether the people like it or not. This was also the method which the revolution pursued in its first years to establish its legitimacy over the land of Egypt. It seems the NDP leadership has forgotten that constitutional legitimacy has replaced revolutionary legitimacy since 1971, and that the system of government in Egypt now depends on the will of the people and not the will of the Armed Forces as was the case in the first years of the revolution.

President Husni Mubarak, I, a colleague who greatly admires and respects you, but before that repects Egypt and the people of Egypt, sincerely advise you to serve as the president of the whole of Egypt and of all Egyptian parties and form a new national government that is capable of tackling Egypt's problems so that the country can continue its democratic process. Last but not least, we request you to hold an open dialogue with the political parties before the people so that you will know their opinion and they will know yours. May God grant succees to Egypt and its noble people and to you, Mr president.

## Electoral Activities of Various Parties Reported

*PM2711095390 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Nov 90 p 5*

[Unattributed report: "Extensive Activities by Egyptian Parties in Preparation for Elections"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from responsible sources in the ruling National Democratic Party [NDP] in Egypt that, following the new legislative elections, a new deputy to the party leader will be selected to succeed Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub, speaker of the Egyptian assembly, who was assassinated in October.

The sources said that the new assembly speaker to be selected is expected to be the candidate for that post. They pointed out that that will be part of a series of important changes to take place in NDP structures within the general secretariat, politburo, and party secretariats in a large number of governorates.

The sources pointed out that the changes concentrate primarily on increasing activities in the stage ahead inside the party's leading positions so as to keep pace with the new phase which will be completed with the cabinet formation expected to be announced in the second week of December, that is after the election battle is completed.

Meanwhile, an official from the opposition National [Progressive Unionist] Grouping [NPUG] in Egypt has denied the possibility of the grouping's accepting—in the event of its candidates' victory in the new Egyptian legislative elections and its assumption of the leadership of the opposition—to enter into alliance with the opposition parties which have boycotted the assembly elections—the Wafd Party, the Labor Party, and the Liberal Party.

The official told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the NPUG does not recognize the principle of setting up alliances because they are built on a group of contradictions and are totally different from the coordination principle of which the grouping and its leaderships approve.

The official pointed out that no contacts have been made with any of the opposition parties which have boycotted the elections to set up such an alliance. He said that the NPUG's opposition will assume a distinctive character different from the opposition parties' past experiments to establish itself on the political scene. It will be based on studied scientific foundations and will proceed from the grouping's program and system.

He pointed out that there is no disagreement over the main national principles between the opposition national forces and the regime. In fact, there is full agreement on these orientations. Disagreement is mainly over ways of resolving economic problems, and this will be the opposition's main concern in the new assembly.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has also learned that the Egyptian Political Party Committee will not accept the registration papers of any new party formed on a religious basis or based on sectarian discrimination. This followed reports that the Muslim Brotherhood group might submit a new application within the framework of its endeavors to maintain its presence on the political scene after it boycotted the recent Egyptian parliamentary elections.

A legal source has pointed out that the new party law bans the establishment of such parties, and that the door is open to the establishment of political parties based on firm foundations and principles, first and foremost of which is the safeguarding of national unity and social peace.

## Party Leaders Interviewed on Upcoming Elections

*NC2111212890*

[Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1400 GMT on 21 November inaugurates a series of interviews with leaders of the political parties participating in the 29 November people's assembly elections with a 20-minute interview with Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, secretary general of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, NPUG.

Muhyi-al-Din notes that his party has nominated 30 candidates in 29 constituencies. He says his party's program and strategy is based on three pillars: democratic reform, socioeconomic reform, and development. Outlining his party's program for democratic reform, he says that his party wants to achieve the following goals:

1. "Banning any merger between the state institutions and the ruling party so that the people can have confidence that the state is for all citizens.... Any merger between the state and the party obstructs the democratic process."

2. "Transforming local administration into genuine popular government through elections, including the election of mayors of cities and villages." He adds that his party "seeks guarantees for the integrity of the People's Assembly elections."

3. "Guaranteeing political freedoms for citizens, including the right to establish societies, trade unions, and cooperatives and the right to stage peaceful demonstrations. We also seek the reorganization of the radio and television services to allow all parties to address the people on a regular basis, as well as a commitment to Islamic sharia as the main source of civil legislation, provided that the laws accord equal treatment to Muslims and Christians."

Turning to the NPUG's socioeconomic and development program, Muhyi-al-Din says this program focuses on two points: high prices and unemployment. He says that high prices are the result of the government's spending more than it receives in revenue and calls for more taxes and the reform of the taxation system. He stresses that low-income groups must be able to purchase staple goods at affordable prices, and says the poor must not be made to bear the brunt of economic reforms.

To address the problem of unemployment, Muhyi-al-Din says that his party proposes large-scale tax-exempt industrial projects that can absorb large numbers of unemployed. He notes that his party also calls for a reform of the education system so that students learn skills for which there is a demand, and also proposes retraining and refresher courses to fill vacancies. He adds that graduates should be trained to fill posts on newly reclaimed land and says funds should be established to help the unemployed.

At 1700 GMT on 21 November, the station carries a 10-minute interview with Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im Turk, leader of the Unionist Democratic Party. After noting

that his party believes that the commanders of the Armed Forces and the internal security forces should not belong to any political party, and that it opposes earlier government measures such as nationalization and the seizure of assets without compensation, he says: "The main goal for which our party was established, as is reflected in its name, is to work to achieve unity between Egypt and Sudan. The two were one country in the past. As a matter of fact, we are one people whom God Almighty placed on an artery that runs from the south to the north." Egyptian-Sudanese unity will provide great economic benefits and will also "be the bulwark around which the other Arab countries will join in a comprehensive unity."

On his party's economic program, Turk says that his party offers a comprehensive analysis of the country's economic problems which he blames on low production, an imbalance between imports and exports, and borrowing.

### Further on Interviews

*NC2211193290*

[Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1400 GMT on 22 November continues its series of interviews with leaders of the political parties participating in the 29 November people's assembly elections with a 20-minute interview with al-Ummah Party leader Ahmad al-Sabbahi 'Awadallah.

Noting that his party will field 34 candidates in 30 constituencies in eight governorates, 'Awadallah says his party's aim "is to rectify the political course." This can be done by abolishing "the emergency law which was not constitutionally approved. There was no real reason for declaring this law, and there is absolutely no justification for keeping it," he adds.

'Awadallah goes on to say that his party's program calls for the adoption of a new constitution which "must stipulate that the Republic has a legislative system, not a presidential one." He adds: "I demand that the military's monopoly on authority be abolished."

Noting that Islam is the official religion of the country, 'Awadallah says: "The principles of Islamic sharia should be the principal source of all legislation." He says his party's program calls for the adoption of an Islamic economic system which would provide a just distribution of wealth. The party's economic program also calls for increased production and concentration on productive ventures and a reduction of dependence on borrowing from abroad. A national Islamic bank should be set up and an Islamic taxation system established. The party also seeks the reorganization of the information and education systems, the closure of establishments that sell liquor or allow gambling, and the creation of a ministry to eliminate illiteracy.

At 1700 GMT on 22 November, the station carries a 17-minute interview with Misr al-Fatah Party representative 'Ali-al-Din Salih. He says that his party originally nominated 22 candidates, but this number has been reduced to 19.

Turning to his party's economic program, Salih says that Egypt needs an economic revolution. The party has proposed a Nile River project that would allow the river's waters to be used more efficiently in generating power and irrigating land. Projects such as this would increase per capita income and reduce imports.

Turning to foreign policy, Salih says: "The Arabs must know that Israel is ready to use the atom bomb. It will not drop it on the Red Sea or the Mediterranean, but on the Arab nation." He continues: "We believe that Arab unity must be established soon. I urge President Saddam not to eliminate Arabism because this would give imperialism and Zionism an opportunity to swoop down on the Arab nation and wipe out the three strongholds of Syria, Egypt, and Jordan. The U.S. ties with the Arabs are not based on wheat or fruit interests; they are based on oil interests."

### Cabinet Meeting Views Foreign, Domestic Issues

*NC2611190390 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi chaired a cabinet meeting today. According to Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, various aspects of the Gulf crisis, including the international community's irrevocable demand for Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate government there, were discussed at the meeting.

Al-Sharif added that the Cabinet reviewed a report by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the results of President Mubarak's visits to Syria and Libya and his talks with President Hafiz al-Aasad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. In his report, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid also reviewed the outcome of U.S. President George Bush's visit to Egypt and his talks with President Mubarak on the developments in the Gulf and the need for an unconditional Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid pointed out that the Mubarak-Bush talks had dealt with the Middle East issue as well as the economic and technical cooperation between Egypt and the United States. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid also reviewed his talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Canadian foreign minister.

Al-Sharif added that the Cabinet then reviewed the results of Paris CSCE summit as well as Egypt's call for a meeting of senior officials from the Mediterranean countries to prepare for the next CSCE meeting.

The Cabinet then reviewed the subjects to be discussed at a session of the Egyptian-Saudi joint committee which will convene at the beginning of December under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers. The cabinet also discussed issues concerned with the joint meeting of the foreign and information ministers of Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Egypt, which will be held the first week of December to coordinate the foreign and information policies of the three countries. The cabinet

then reviewed the topics on the agenda of the Egyptian-Syrian higher joint committee session to be held on 10 and 11 December in Cairo under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers, as well as the topics to be discussed during the meetings of the Egyptian-Libyan ministerial committee which will meet under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers in Cairo in the coming days.

The information minister added that the Cabinet then reviewed a report by the interior minister on his ministry's efforts to curb terrorist operations and infiltration attempts from abroad that are aimed at carrying out operations to undermine Egypt's domestic stability. The cabinet also discussed the course of the elections process throughout the republic. The interior minister noted that despite the intense competition among candidates representing all political trends, the masses and candidates have shown a sense of responsibility in their respect for the law. The interior minister pointed out that all the candidates, be they affiliated with parties or independents, are being accorded equal opportunities. The Cabinet invited all citizens to exercise their right to vote on 29 November and elect their representatives to the People's Assembly. The interior minister stressed the government's committment to maintain full impartiality and to respect the citizens' right to easy access to polling stations. However, no breach of law and order and no abuse of these freedoms through acts aimed at undermining security and the law will be tolerated, the interior minister added.

The Cabinet also discussed a report submitted by the minister of supply on the strategic reserves from the basic commodities and approved the necessary credits to make available the necessary reserves from these commodities (?up to) the middle of next year.

The Cabinet agreed to merge the seven firms in the public sector's department for poultry and livestock into only two companies, and to merge companies with identical lines of business in the public sector's department for consumer, engineering, and chemical goods in order to upgrade performance and streamline the financial structures of these firms.

## Sidqi Discusses Elections, Gulf, Unemployment

*NC2511134990 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Speaking during a visit to al-Minufiyah Governorate, Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi asserted that there are solid guarantees that next Thursday's elections will be clean and fair. He called on all citizens to vote and thus participate in the Egyptian decisionmaking process. Dr. Sidqi noted that the past nine years have witnessed Egyptian achievements which are only rivaled by the glorious October victory.

Commenting on the Gulf crisis, Dr. Sidqi said that Egypt under President Mubarak's leadership is doing its utmost to liberate Kuwait and restore legitimacy through peaceful means. He said: Thanks to President Mubarak's policy, Egypt succeeded in obtaining the cancellation of its debts. He remarked that this will reduce the burden on Egypt's balance of payments, thus paving the way for increased production. The government is doing everything possible to cover the deficit in the state budget.

Dr. Sidqi remarked that the new law on civil servants will ensure equality and justice for all civil servants, stressing that the government is making every effort to complete this law as soon as possible.

Commenting on unemployment, Dr. Sidqi asserted that this issue tops the government's priorities, adding that the government is addressing the issue by expanding small-scale industries and distributing arable land among graduates. [passage omitted]

## 'Abd-al-Majid Hails Outcome of CSCE Summit

*NC2111144190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1238 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Nov (MENA)—Egypt has followed the historic Paris Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe with interest and satisfaction and expressed its belief that the outcome of the conference has considerable significance, not only for security and stability in Europe but also for the security and the future of all mankind.

This statement was issued today by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Following is the text of the statement:

Egypt has learned with interest and satisfaction of the historic results achieved by the CSCE in Paris. These results are extremely significant, not only for security and stability in Europe but for the security and the future of all mankind.

As it expresses its full support for the results of the second CSCE summit, Egypt reiterates its confidence that these results will have direct positive and constructive effects on security and stability in the Arab world, the Gulf region, and the Mediterranean basin.

The charters signed within the framework of the second CSCE summit were inspired by the basic principles that govern international relations. Foremost among these principles are the peaceful settlement of disputes among states, the avoidance of the use of force or the threat to use force in relations between states, and respect for the obligations entailed by geographical proximity and good-neighborliness as well as by human rights and democracy.

Egypt has applied these principles to its domestic and foreign policies out of its unshakable conviction that these principles collectively establish a firm foundation for security, stability, and peace in the world in general and the Middle East in particular.

Egypt calls on all peace-loving powers which are eager to establish security and stability around the world to unite

their constructive efforts so that these principles can be put into practice in all corners of the world.

Egypt takes this opportunity to reiterate its determination to embark—together with all Arab states—on laying a foundation for security, stability, and peace in the Arab world, proceeding from its faith in the principles mankind has arrived at after long years of bloody wars and confrontations.

### Al-Mahjub Murder Suspects Reveal Other Targets

*JN2611194590 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 21 Nov 90 p 1*

[Report by Mahmud al-Hadari]

[Text] Suspects in the murder of Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub have admitted to their investiagtors that the list of their potential targets includes a number of police officers, including all interior ministers past and present. They said the mistake of killing al-Mahjub has changed nothing but served its purpose since he was a symbol of the regime which they described as infidel and corrupt.

They admitted that their arrest had saved the life of Interior Minister Major General Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa and others from "punishment."

The suspects said that some journalists and writers—including chief editors, columnists, and novelist Najib Mahfuz—were also potential targets for assassination.

The suspects also stated their activity has not ceased since the assassination of President Anwar al-Sadat in October 1981. One of them said they blamed their failure to seize power after the murder of al-Sadat and the Asyut incidents, in which approximately 100 police officers and soldiers were killed, on "a flaw in planning."

The suspects would not give information on the organization's top echelons, adding that the group's members would pursue their objectives even if they were to hang.

They called Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman a virtuous shaykh and the "spiritual father" of all of them.

Most of the suspects described Egyptian society as infidel and said that infidelity pervades the country; they are the right people to reform the populace and correct the state of affairs in the country, even if it costs them their lives.

Among other things, the suspects said: Armed struggle is the only way to protect the nation from the infidelity of the regime and the ruled and heretical thinkers.

Identifying their religious Muslim and Christian enemies by name, the suspects said: There are those who claim to be defenders of Islam when they are deviationists, and there are Islamic elements who fawn on the government. They are guilty of apostasy, and therefore the shedding of their blood is a religious duty.

### Security Forces Arrest Al-Jihad Group Members

*JN2311185790 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 18 Nov 90 p 1*

[Text] Yesterday evening security forces arrested 'Isam Rushdi 'Abd-al-Zahir, a leading member of the al-Jihad group, and found him in possession of several maps of an installation showing entry and exit routes as well as access roads.

According to an official source, the maps were an accurate representation of the main gates, the access roads to the building, and the exits. The source said that the suspect is an al-Jihad group activist.

Meanwhile, the security forces have apprehended two other members of the al-Jihad group: Faruq Muhammad and 'Abduh Muhammad al-Sayyid, who are suspected of involvement in the murder of Dr. al-Mahjub.

### Talks Held With Italians on Satellite Channels

*NC2611214290 Cairo MENA in English 2055 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, Nov 25 (MENA)—Information Egyptian-Italian talks under Fathi Bayyumi, the chairman of the T.V. and Broadcasting Corporation, and the visiting deputy director of the Italian T.V. and Broadcasting Corporation, to prepare a draft protocol for information cooperation between Egypt and Italy, opened here tonight.

The meeting dealt with formation of working groups to prepare the draft protocol and define its information fields, as well as the possibility of Egypt's use of the programme of the Italian international satellite channel in Egypt, and Italy's use of the Egyptian international satellite channel.

The final session of the talks will be held tomorrow.

The Italian delegation had toured today T.V. and radio studios and saw the system of work.

[Cairo MENA in English at 1924 GMT on 26 November adds: "The Egyptian-Italian talks on preparing the draft information cooperation protocol between the two countries ended here today.

"Fathi Bayyumi, radio and TV union board of trustees chairman, said that the protocol was expected to be signed in the second half of January.

"Bayyumi, who led the Egyptian side to the talks, said that the protocol included, among other things, bilateral cooperation in the sphere of TV programmes exchange via satellites."]

### Libya's Qadhdhaf-al-Damm Concludes Official Visit

*NC2611192190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—Ahmad Qadhdhaf-al-Damm, coordinator of Egyptian-Libyan relations, left

for home this evening after visiting Egypt for several days. He was seen off at the airport by the staff of the Libyan People's Bureau in Cairo.

### German Financing To Total 1.4 Billion Marks

*JN2611132190 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 20 Nov 90 p 9*

[Report by Najla' Dhikra]

[Text] Dr. Siegfried Lengl, German deputy minister for economic cooperation, said at a news conference yesterday that the FRG is strongly inclined to support the Egyptian economic demands and to aid Egypt in the implementation of its economic reform program, and also to help it overcome the negative effects of the Gulf crisis on the Egyptian economy.

In statements to reporters following the signing of two agreements providing for grants and loans to Egypt totalling 435 million Deutsche marks, the German deputy minister for economic cooperation added that Egypt is the key to the future and the region's safety valve. He affirmed that the Germans believe that if a war were to erupt, it would involve the whole world. He added: The German people are totally convinced that President Mubarak, the Egyptian Government, and the Egyptian people support peace and peace opportunities. This is why the German Government is now signing these agreements. These agreements were meant to show the strength of the Egyptian-German friendship and to demonstrate that this friendship will extend for many generations to come.

Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, and Dr. Lengl, German deputy minister for economic cooperation, yesterday signed two agreements. The first provides for granting Egypt 200 million Deutsche marks in the form of a nonrefundable grant to finance the commodities import program. The second agreement concerns 235 million Deutsche marks which will be provided to Egypt as an easy credit loan, 90 million marks of which will be a nonrefundable grant. The agreement also calls for the reallocation of 193 million Deutsche marks from previous appropriations. The signing ceremony was attended by ambassador Rafiq Salah, first under secretary for European affairs at the Ministry of International Cooperation, and the German ambassador in Cairo.

Dr. Lengl affirmed that the German Government is helping Egypt economically to overcome the effects of the Gulf crisis. He added: This aid has taken the form of 200 million Deutsche marks given as a nonrefundable grant to be used during the period between 2 August and the end of December 1990. Another agreement involving an easy credit loan of 235 million Deutsche marks was also signed at an interest rate of 0.75 percent. Of this amount, 90 million Deutsche marks will be in the form of a nonrefundable grant to support environment and infrastructure projects.

The German deputy minister for economic cooperation added that during the past period there had been negotiations by Egypt and Germany to effect mutual cooperation. He went on to say: The negotiators have decided to expedite the implementation of agreements previously agreed on concerning the implementation of projects which will cost some 1 billion Deutsche marks. Thus, the total German financing of development projects in Egypt will total some 1.4 billion Deutsche marks, equivalent to 2.7 billion Egyptian pounds, during the next phase.

In reply to a question on the impact of the unification of the two Germanys on the world economy during the forthcoming phase, Dr. Lengl indicated that the world economy is suffering from a recession. However, we and the remaining European states will work over the next five years to achieve development. As for united Germany, it has numerous friends.

### Economic Agreement Signed With Finland 25 Nov

*NC2511202790 Cairo MENA in English 1626 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Cairo, Nov 25 (MENA)—Egypt and Finland signed today an agreement for promoting economic cooperation between the two countries.

The agreement provides for offering Egypt grants and loans during the three coming years as of 1991-92 worth 300 million Finnish markkas for economic and social development, especially in the fields of agriculture, food security, potable water, sanitary drainage and power.

The Egyptian-Finnish agreement was signed by Rafiq Salah-al-Din, undersecretary of international cooperation, on behalf of Egypt and the Finnish deputy chairman of the authority entrusted with offering aid.

Finland contributes to establishing power projects amounting to 57 million Finnish markkas as well as potable water and sanitary drainage projects in a number of the governorates reaching 45 million markkas the Egyptian official said.

Meanwhile, the Finnish official voiced hope over the establishment of the projects in line with the set-up plan saying that Finland contributes to the establishment of more than 15 projects in various domains.

A Finnish delegation arrived here on Tuesday.

### Army Conducts Night Maneuver Across Suez Canal

*NC2511122190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0921 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Ismailia, 25 Nov (MENA)—General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, Armed Forces commander in chief and minister of defense and war production, has observed the first maneuver involving a night crossing of the Suez Canal. The exercise was carried out by one of the 2d Army's armored

divisions and was the second night maneuver conducted by the Egyptian Armed Forces this month.

The defense minister issued orders to all the units of the 2d Army to conduct this night exercise regardless of cost because such exercise give our Armed Forces confidence in their ability to cross water barriers. He stressed the importance of transferring the expertise gained to other Armed Forces units and formations.

The maneuver proved that the Egyptian Armed Forces have become among the leading military establishments in the world in overcoming difficult water barriers by night and day. This is reinforced by the practical experience gained from their outstanding performance during the 1973 October War.

The division carried out the maneuver in cooperation with the 2d Army's Command Staff, bridge building and rescue units, armored and mechanized vehicles, artillery and air defense systems, administrative personnel, and logistics units.

Also observing the maneuver were Lieutenant General Safiy al-Din Abu-Shinaf, Armed Forces chief of staff; Major General Faruq 'Alam-al-Din, commander of the 2d Army; the chiefs of departments and senior commanders of the Armed Forces; and Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority.

Speaking to the press following the maneuver, Gen Abu-Talib said that the Egyptian Armed Forces have the ability and the means to fight a night battle under all circumstances, including those involving the use of chemical weapons. He stated that a force which possesses the means and the ability to engage in night action adds to its general capability and thus increases its chances of victory.

Abu-Talib praised the high level of performance of the forces participating in the maneuver. He noted that this shows the extent of the efforts made and good training received by these forces and noted that such a standard is only to be expected of the 2d Army whose performance in the 1973 war was prominently recorded by history.

The "Unifloat" bridge was used for the first time in this maneuver. Egyptian technicians are developing the bridge to increase its load capacity from 60 to 70 tons so that it can handle the new tanks with which the Egyptian forces are being equipped. This is also part of the Armed Forces engineering department's plan to increase the load capacity of all bridges to 70 tons. Following its development, the new bridge will have an overall length of 275 meters and a road surface 4.80 meters wide. The bridge has 12 external engines and can be turned into ferries in the event parts of it are destroyed. [passage omitted]

## Sudan

### Al-Bashir Reiterates Position on Gulf

*EA2111205690 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Khartoum 20 November (SUNA)—Today Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, member [as received] of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], received two letters from His Excellency 'Ali Hoseyn Khamene'i, [word indistinct] of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and His Excellency 'Ali Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This came today when his excellency received at the [word indistinct] palace the visiting Iranian delegation headed by Gholamreza Foruzesh, Iranian minister of the Construction Jihad. Both letters concerned relations between the countries and ways of strengthening and promoting them.

Mr. al-Sadiq Bakhit, press adviser of his excellency the RCC chairman, said in a press statement that the letters were in response to letters that Lt. Gen. al-Bashir sent to the Iranian leaders. The press adviser said that Lt. Gen. al-Bashir explained to the Iranian delegation the objectives of the Salvation Revolution and reviewed with them issues of mutual concern, particularly the Gulf crisis. He explained to the delegation Sudan's position on the Gulf crisis and reiterated that Sudan did not support the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait but that it opposed the foreign presence in the region because of the dangers posed by this presence to the security and peace of the region and of the Arabs and Muslims.

His Excellency Mr. Bakhit explained that the Iranian delegation briefed Lt. Gen. al-Bashir on the nature of the work [words indistinct] the support which (?they) could provide to Sudan to implement joint projects in the development field. The press adviser told SUNA that the Iranian side stressed its determination to build a health clinic in Sudan and (?requested) that the relevant authorities specify its location. [passage omitted]

### Iran To Aid in Commerce, Construction Projects

*EA2311115290 Khartoum SUNA in French 0923 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Nov (SUNA)—Colonel Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, governor of the central region and National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] member, has announced that the signing of the minutes at the end of the Sudan-Iran talks represented a good initiative towards expanding cooperative relations between the two countries. Mr. Gholamreza Foruzesh, the Iranian minister of construction and public works who headed the Iranian delegation, paid tribute to the good relations between Sudan and Iran and also expressed gratitude to the Sudanese people.

Meanwhile, the two sides have agreed that Iran should take part in the implementation of some projects in

Sudan, which include the construction of the peace road that links the towns of Kosti, Renk, Malakal, and Juba in southern Sudan, and other projects in the fields of livestock, (?agriculture) and commerce.

The Iranian delegation arrived in Khartoum on Saturday, 17 Nov for an official visit.

### Sahlul Meets U.S. Envoy, Reaffirms Neutrality

*EA2611195690 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Nov (SUNA)—Sudan has reiterated its complete neutrality concerning the Gulf crisis and its rejection of the military presence in the region and has reiterated support for settling the crisis peacefully within the Arab family and the Islamic nation. Foreign Minister Mr. 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul announced this when he met his excellency the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum today. They also discussed relations between the countries and how to develop them in addition to the explosive situation in the Gulf region.

Today Mr. Sahlul met the eight ambassadors of the EEC accredited to Sudan. He discussed with them the latest developments relating to the Gulf crisis [word indistinct] to achieve the desired solution and to ensure the safety of the hostages.

### Curfew Extended in Red Sea Province

*EA2311125890 (Clandestine) Voice of Sudan in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] The Sudanese newspaper AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH reports that Red Sea Province recently issued a decree activating the enforcement of the state of emergency after assessing the deteriorating security situation in the province. The newspaper added that the curfew was now being enforced with effect from 2200 instead of 2330. Working and [word indistinct] groups concerning the emergency have been reconsidered. Numerous measures have also been implemented. In Port Sudan, AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH met naval Brigadier al-Husayn 'Abd-al-Karim, commander of the Red Sea military zone, who on 7 November issued the decree activating the state of emergency.

It is worth mentioning that the deteriorating security situation has affected most of the country. Martial law has been declared in Darfur, and villages were searched for arms in an operation commanded by Lietenant General (?Hassan), while a war, in which foreign parties are participating, is going on within the region's territories.

### Radio SPLA Says Rebels Capture Two Towns

*EA2611155890 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Yesterday, Sunday 25 November 1990, SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] special Bright Star Campaign commando forces, in a precise, surgical, military operation, overran and captured the two vital and strategic towns of Yambio, the provincial capital of Western Equatoria Province, and Nzara, the only industrial city in War Zone One and also in Western Equatoria, 25 km from Yambio. Commando Bright Star Campaign forces are now in total and firm control of both Yambio and Nzara.

### University Students To Undergo Military Training

*EA2611134490 Khartoum SUNA in English 0924 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Khartoum, 26th November (SUNA)—The students admitted this year in the Sudanese universities and higher institutes are to undergo military training at the Popular Defence Force camps at Khartoum and Medani during Dec 1st 1990 [to] Feb 1st 1991. As for girls the Popular Defence Forces administration will organize the training programme in collaboration with the National Council for Higher Education according to the available capabilities. Deputy chairman of the Revolution Command Council ministers and the supervisor of the higher education directed the chairman of the National Council for Higher Education to take the required measures to this effect.

### Al-Bashir on Ties With PRC, Japan, Pakistan

*EA2611133690 Khartoum SUNA in English 1614 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Khartoum, 25 November (SUNA)—General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council], has described (?the) Sudanese relations as "strong". Briefing today the [word indistinct] Council of Ministers joint meeting on his recent visit to China, Japan and Pakistan, the RCC chairman said that China had contributed to number of development projects in the country without exercising political pressures on Sudan. He hailed the outcome of the visit, which he described as "(?expansive)".

Commenting on his visit to Japan, Gen. al-Bashir said that he met there with the religious sects and friends of Sudan in Japan Parliament. He went on to say that the visit aims at participating in the enthronement of Japan emperor and opening a new sphere of cooperation with Japan.

On his visit to Pakistan he noted that the Pakistani officials expressed readiness to cooperate with Sudan in all domains, indicating that the two sides agreed to form a joint ministerial committee.

On the other hand, the meeting of the two councils approved the understanding memo signed recently between Sudan and Iran.

## World Bank Grants Funds for Sugar Industry

*EA2611195290 Khartoum SUNA in English 1012 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Khartoum, 26 November (SUNA)—The World Bank has agreed to finance the urgent priorities of the sugar sector's rehabilitation programme (SSRP) at a total cost of two million dollars, the chairman of the SSRP's Executive Unit, Muhammad Ahmad Hasan, said. Speaking to SUNA yesterday, Hasan said the agreement was taken in the light of the recent field visit launched by the Bank's visiting delegation to Ginayd, New Halfa, Sinnar, and Assalaya sugar factories for inspecting the rehabilitation work there. The visit was also aimed at observing the ongoing preparations for the new sugar season which commenced on November (?15th). The Bank's team was also acquainted with the preparations for the coming sugar production season besides the problems that encounter performance of the four sugar factories in addition to measures for averting such difficulties.

Meanwhile the World Bank delegation yesterday met the first under secretary of the Planning Agency at the Finance Ministry, Dr. Muhammad Khayr al-Zubayr, and reviewed with him implementation of the sugar factories rehabilitation process. The meeting was also attended by the director of the Sudanese sugar company, SSC, the chairman of the SSRP's Executive Unit, and other officials at the sugar sector. The Bank's delegation has expressed satisfaction over the implementation of the rehabilitation works.

The national sugar production is expected to witness an increase of 16 to 20 percent more than the past season. It is to be recalled that the World Bank contributes to the financing of the sugar sector's rehabilitation programmes with 16,000,000 dollars out of the total rehabilitation cost estimated at 180,000,000 dollars.

## Kuwait

### Exiles in Egypt Send Open Letter to Bush

*PM2611170390 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 23 Nov 90 p 2*

[Open letter to President Bush from Egypt-based Kuwaiti League for Popular Action]

[Excerpts] President George Bush, may God's peace, mercy, and blessings be with you: In the name of the thousands of men, women, and children now in the Arab Republic of Egypt, having been forced out of their homeland and rendered destitute throughout the world by the Iraqi regime, with family ties broken, we greet you as guest of our second home Egypt, the heart of the Arab nation and of its great President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, who has taken a firm, principled, and courageous position on our just cause. [passage omitted]

We greet you as you embark on your Arab tour and talks with Arab leaders on the serious and intensifying crisis in our region and the prevailing war atmosphere resulting from the Iraqi regime's invasion of our Kuwaiti homeland, which was a major crime against humanity and against the Arab nation's rights and security. That was a crime committed in cold blood and contempt for all international charters, religious and human values, pan-Arab links, and principles of good-neighborliness. We thank you for your declared positions insisting on international legitimacy and prompt implementation of the UN resolutions condemning the aggression, calling for full and immediate Iraqi withdrawal from our country and for the restoration of its legitimate government, and imposing progressive sanctions against the aggressor to force him to heed these resolutions.

We also thank you for your repeated declarations of concern regarding the killing, torture, intimidation, and plunder to which our steadfast people at home are subjected.

Mr. President, while taking all that into consideration, we wish to express our deep concern at the course our homeland's cause is currently taking, because whenever international pressure on the Iraqi regime escalates and our people feel that salvation is close, the world gives the aggressor more time to catch his breath and more time to launch a psychological warfare in two directions:

1—against our steadfast people to drive them out through increasing repression and systematic destruction of their national character and the country's infrastructure;

2—against the world through blackmail by using the hostages as human shields against the world's anger, in violation of all traditions and values, and as a way of gaining more time to devour its prey and escape punishment.

We are worried by the proposals and settlement plans circulating in international circles and rewarding the aggressor at the expense of the victim.

We, of course, value your declaration that U.S. intervention is based on principles and not motivated by oil. We hope that position will be upheld as a firm policy toward all the friendly states in our region.

Mr. President, we are not warmongers, for the main characteristic of our people, small in number, is that they are peaceful people. [passage omitted]

We the Kuwaiti people appreciate the dangers threatening the hostages held by the fascist regime and we share their families' and peoples' concern for their lives in the event of war. We sympathize with them but, at the same time, we would like to remind the world of the dear blood which was spilled in Kuwait during the campaigns launched by the occupation forces in search of the hostages in Kuwaiti homes. We remind the world that the biggest hostage in history is the steadfast Kuwaiti people living in one big detention camp in isolation from the world. We remind the world that while the barbaric regime is trying to appear before the world to be avoiding harm to the hostages and avoiding a threat to their lives, it is daily and relentlessly shedding the chaste blood of our people. [passage omitted]

That despotic regime will not give in to the international will unless it becomes certain of the world's determination to expel it by force of arms if necessary, and unless it becomes certain that the peoples of the world, especially the friendly American people who are shouldering the main burden in the face of aggression, are, like the steadfast Kuwaiti people, prepared to swallow the bitter pill in order to defeat aggression and establish just peace. [passage omitted]

Mr. President, we the Kuwaiti people are advocates of peace. We had not upheld the military option. The Iraqi regime was the first to actually use the military option when it launched its armed aggression against us, fully occupied our homeland, and committed barbarous and vicious acts of murder and bloodshed. It must bear the consequences of its aggression lest the law of the jungle prevail and force triumph over justice.

Finally, Mr. President, we wish you a successful tour and we wish the friendly American people prosperity. We wholeheartedly beseech God to spare us war, and we pray that the aggressors leave our homeland without fighting so that stability, peace, and justice may return to our region and so that Kuwait may once again be free and independent under the leadership of its amir in order to contribute to the promotion of an advanced democratic Arab society and so that our nation's resources may be geared toward the progress of mankind in the new century.

[Signed] Kuwaiti League for Popular Action in the Arab Republic of Egypt

[Dated] 23 November 1990

### Government Forms Higher Consultative Commission

*LD2311153090 (Clandestine) Radio Kuwait in Arabic 2045 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] His highness the heir apparent and prime minister has issued a decision setting up a Higher Consultative Commission [al-haya'h al-istishariyah al-'ulya]. The decision says: In line with the requirements of the conditions through which our beloved homeland is going, such as the need to concentrate all the energies and capabilities, and the convergance of all efforts for the achievement of the national objectives and to provide an impetus for the march to the liberation of Kuwait from the sinful Iraqi occupation, and in order to implement the proposal presented by Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah during the Kuwaiti People's Conference held in Jeddah from 13-15 October, concerning a committee of Kuwaiti citizens to assist the minister in giving advice on various topics, a commission has been formed to attain the objective of liberation.

The commission consists of a chairman: the heir apparent and prime minister; and the following members: the deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the minister of state for cabinet affairs; the minister of justice and legal affairs; the minister of planning; the minister of information; Ahmad Zayd al-Sarhan; Ahmad Sa'ad al-Jabir; Ahmad 'Abd-al-Aziz al-Sa'adun; Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Rubai'; Badr Khalid al-Badr; Badr Dhahi al-'Aqil; Husayn Muhammad M'arafi; Khalid 'Isa al-Salih; Sami Ahmad al-Munayyis; Sa'ad Muhammad al-Sa'ad; Sa'ud Badr al-Badr; Salman Du'ayj al-Sabah; 'Abd-al-Razzaq Khalid al-Zayd; 'Abd-al-'Aziz Ahmad al-Bahr; 'Abd-al-'Aziz Hamad al-Saqr; 'Abd-al-'Aziz Fahd; [name indistinct]; 'Abdallah Bin-'Ali al-Mutaww'a; 'Isa 'Abdallah [word indistinct]; Mubarak Fahd al-Duwaylah; Mubarak Muhammad al-'Utaybi; Muhammad Sabah al-Salim; Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Wazzan; Muhammad Yusuf al-Rumi; Munayzil Jasir al-'Anzi; Nasir 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Quttami; Hadi Hayif al-Huwaylah; Yusuf Ibrahim al-Ghanim; and Yusuf Muhammad al-Sumaytt.

The Coordination Committee consists of: Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-S'adun; Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Rubai'; Khalid 'Isa al-Salih; Sami Ahmad al-Munayyis; Sa'ad Muhammad al-Sa'ad; Salman Du'ayj al-Sabah; 'Abd-al-Razzaq Khalid al-Zayd; 'Abd-al-'Aziz Muhammad al-Saqr; 'Abdallah Bin-'Ali al-Mutaww'a; 'Isa 'Abdallah Bahman; Muhammad Sabah al-Salim; Mubarak Fahd al-Duwaylah; Mubarak Muhammad al-'Utaybi; and Yusuf Muhammad al-Sumaytt.

## Oman

### GCC Summit on Crisis Set for December in Doha

*JN2711093390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0825 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Doha, 27 Nov (WAKH)—Omani Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawwas has announced that the next summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries' leaders will be held in Doha in December and will discuss the Gulf crisis, since it has been the focus of interest since August.

Mr. al-Rawwas affirmed in an interview to the Qatari magazine AL-'AHD published today that the shortest route to a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis is based on implementing international resolutions and restoring the legitimate government to Kuwait.

He warned that war means destruction and that the Sultanate of Oman is concerned about the Iraqi people and what remains of Kuwait. He noted that the solution to the Gulf crisis, whether Arab or international, can only come when Iraq announces that it accepts the principle of withdrawing from Kuwait.

Responding to a question on an Omani initiative on the Gulf crisis, the Omani minister said his country believes that the first initiative must come from Iraq, which must declare in principle, its acceptance to withdraw and take a courageous initiative.

He expressed his hope that it will not be too late when Iraq takes the initiative; this crisis has preoccupied us from formulating a new world order, therefore, our responsibilities will be greater and so will our losses.

The Omani information minister referred to His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman's declaration on forming the Omani Consultative Assembly and said: This declaration is in fact a continuation of the wise policy of the Omani individual participating in making decisions dealing with the life of the Omanis. He noted that a working group has been entrusted with setting the appropriate means to render this Assembly a success.

### Official Leaves for Tehran on 'Routine' Visit

*JN2411142290 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and his delegation left for Tehran at noon today on a two-day official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The minister gave a statement to the OMANI NEWS AGENCY before his departure, describing his visit to Tehran as routine. He stressed the need to hold discussions with all countries in the region, especially with the Islamic Republic of Iran, at this stage the region is confronting.

The minister said he hoped that in his visit to Iran he would be able to form a consensus in favor of guaranteeing the interests of the people and countries in the region.

Regarding the postponement of the preparatory meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council's Ministerial Council, the minister explained the meeting had been postponed to give more time to a number of their highnesses and excellencies who are members of the ministerial council.

The minister said he hoped that the meeting would be held during the second week of December.

To see off the minister of state and his delegation were Ambassador Khamis Bin-Hamad al-Battashi, head of the Protocol Section at the Foreign Ministry, and the Iranian charge d'affaires in the sultanate.

## Saudi Arabia

### King Fahd Speaks on Gulf Crisis, Foreign Forces

*LD2611204190 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1823 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Speech by King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud to citizens in Jeddah on 25 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] Our interrelations in this country are relations based on a number of principles, the most important of which are the Islamic ones. We are very proud of them and we hope, God willing, that we will always be in the service of our Islamic faith in the full sense of the concepts contained in God's book and his messenger's path.

I believe that everyone will agree with me on this matter. This country has nothing to be proud of—something which does not exist anywhere else but here—except Mecca and holy Madinah, God's holy mosque and his messenger's mosque.

Therefore, the inhabitants of this country should shoulder all kinds of great responsibilities, responsibilities which can be described as the greatest responsibilities a human being can bear. However, it is our pride as well as a good thing from God that he has made us in the service of Islam and Muslims. We hope that we will be able to perform our duties thanks to God's preference of putting us in these holy places.

As far as world events are concerned, events which have put us under particular circumstances, circumstances which might lead to an unimaginable situation—imagination is one thing and reality is a different matter. The most important matter in this context, and we all share the same viewpoint here, is the painful unprecedented event in our history: An Arab country neighboring another Arab country, which had signed a reciprocal agreement and treaty recognizing each other, was invaded one night after midnight and occupied by force.

This is well known. But it is something that will affect us Arabs and probably will make others wonder for how long the Arab nation will remain unable to unite within a framework supported by love and harmony.

I have previously said that I was the first to be taken by surprise by what Iraq has done to Kuwait. This is because I know these problems and I have lived with them for years and particularly in the last days. We knew, and this matter was previously highlighted, that there was a problem concerning oil production. I mean this was the case at the start.

Some time later, however, new matters arose between Iraq and Kuwait over the border and the al-Rumaylah oilfield. Arguments ensued on this issue which is not really a new one.

Because of its good relations with both Kuwait and Iraq in the past, and because it could achieve results, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom offered its good offices. The matter was discussed with both sides and was met with response from Kuwait to the effect that the matter could be discussed in a cordial manner and an understanding could be reached. Consequently useful and constructive results could be achieved.

We also contacted Iraq which showed a similar response, but was characterized with some kind of tension. I tried as much as I could to do something. But it seems that matters moved faster and we could not keep up with them. It transpired that the reason why matters were speeded up was due to a specified reason. We neither knew nor could expect what happened.

It seems to me that things were all prepared after the last Baghdad conference. Europe too did not anticipate what has taken place. Conditions then began to take a character marred with some tension which showed that things could not be resolved in a constructive and useful manner. In spite of that, I tried to contact the Iraqi president by virtue of our stand with Iraq. Our stand with Iraq was not done in secrecy. Iraq is a neighboring Arab country which we supported because it constitutes a part of the Arab nation of which we too are a part. How then can Iraq or President Saddam Husayn say that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has wronged him? He could never do that.

We all have heard President Saddam Husayn's statements on all occasions that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was never at any time late in offering what it could to Iraq, whether financial, military equipment, or the utilization of its ports for Iraqi imports. Could anyone after these deeds and supporting Iraqi efforts think that Iraq would one day invade Kuwait after midnight? I think no one entertained these thoughts regardless of the noticeable tension. This tension, however should not have led to what Iraq has done to Kuwait.

When we noticed the tension, I sent His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to President Saddam Husayn to convey to him that we were noticing preparations and exercises in the al-Faw area and we wondered what the reason for it was.

The problems with Iran ended by an agreement which you concluded with the Iranians and both parties accepted that agreement. The answer was there was nothing in mind more than our military forces should be trained every now and then, and just in case incidents occur between us and Iran if our acceptance of the Security Council resolutions and their acceptance face obstacles. Possibly then events of untold consequences could happen.

We were bound to believe these remarks. They were from a neighboring Arab country which we have provided great assistance. We noticed something abnormal, however, but it did not draw enough attention to make us believe that fighting was imminent. Nevertheless, and in addition to what I have said, we were in contact with President Husni Mubarak.

We are discussing these matters and noticing these things. I told President Mubarak that His Highness Prince Sa'ud, the foreign minister, had gone to Iraq and that Saddam had convinced him and we were then convinced that these military exercises and movements could not be directed against Kuwait and could not be used against Kuwait, and that it was something that did not cross his mind at all. Yes, this was his reply.

There were border problems and we hoped they would be solved by cordial means. I personally believed that I was the nearest person to both countries—to Iraq and to Kuwait. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was capable of doing something to prevent things from deteriorting to the level they reached.

What happened was that President Husni Mubarak and I discussed the results achieved by Prince Sa'ud. Naturally we were convinced. We had to feel convinced for there were no problems between us and Iraq. Indeed, love reigned between us. This was the apparent thing which we were aware of precisely.

Mubarak said that his brother, that is Mubarak's brother, should also go to Iraqi and Kuwait. This really was a good idea. We were trying to keep away any spectre of problems of the heart. There was no danger or a problem of war.

President Mubarak went to Iraq and Kuwait and reassured himself and contacted me. He said: I have told the Iraqis that we noticed a stalemate between Kuwait and Iraq in the talks which were presumed to continue. He told President Saddam of this and said that it would be better for the talks on the borders problem to be resumed.

The Iraqi president said that is alright but I accept resuming talks so that we may return to where we were before, because we reached a stalemate and our meeting should take place in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

President Husni Mubarak contacted me and it was natural for me to accept this and welcome the two countries. Iraq and Kuwait both agreed. It was thus agreed that two delegations, one from Kuwait and the other from Iraq, would come. The Kuwaiti delegation would be headed by the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister and Iraq delegated Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim who would be accompanied by a number of officials.

They arrived at about 1000 at Jeddah airport and were welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz. The Kuwaiti heir apparent was the first to arrive and Prince 'Abdallah escorted him to our royal court. Afterward Prince 'Abdallah returned to the airport and accompanied the Iraqi vice president. Then all of us gathered at the reception hall and the heads of the two delegations talked to each other. We were pleased by that because it was a good start.

After some time I told them that places had been accorded for them to rest and to meet, if they so wished. The two sides welcomed this suggestion and they were accompanied by Prince 'Abdallah Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz to the places designated for them.

Then the two sides met and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom had nothing to do with any mediation between the two countries. This is because they were two neighboring countries and consequently an understanding between them did not need any mediator.

All that mattered was that the period during which the talks were suspended was overcome by the meeting. They stayed and talked to each other. At the beginning the two were on their own. Then they were joined by officials from the Kuwaiti delegation and the Iraqi delegation. They concluded their talks and left to the palace prepared for their comfortable stay. We hosted a dinner for them at nearly 2130.

The Iraqi delegation head who was the vice president requested the head of protocol to prepare a single car to carry the Iraqi vice president and the heir apparent and prime minister of Kuwait, and to hoist two flags on it—the Iraqi flag and the Kuwaiti flag. When the head of protocol informed me I was pleased because that meant an agreement was reached, it meant an agreement in principle. The two of them arrived to the dinner in one car. After a short while the dinner was ready. We proceeded to the tables and I did not speak with anyone. We considered the subject to concern two neighboring countries.

Out of courtesy and certainly in circumstances like that when people sit together at dinner, naturally they talk to each other. So I asked the heir apparent and prime minister of Kuwait: Have matters taken their normal course, God willing? He replied: In fact I compiled all the previous talks until the dialogue was stopped between us and Iraq and I told the head of the Iraqi delgation, 'Izzat Ibrahim, that I was prepared to discuss any subject he wanted, whether to review the recent events or the past.

We all know that the subject of borders was problematic at the time of 'Abd-al-Karim Qasim [Iraqi general who led the revolution of 1958 and threatened to invade Kuwait in 1961] but the issue was quiet in the end.

HH Prince [as heard] Sa'ud said that the head of the Iraqi delegation, 'Izat Ibrahim, talked for a while but in the end he wanted the talks to be held in Baghdad. They agreed, as related to me by the Kuwaiti heir apparent, that their meeting would be to thaw the frost between the two countries. They agreed to meet in Baghdad on Saturday. Naturally I blessed this and thought that things had opened up.

They left Jeddah I believe at 1100 or shortly before. The head of the Iraqi delegation left for Iraq and the head of the Kuwaiti delegation left for Kuwait on the assumption that they would meet on Saturday. [passage omitted]

I tried to contact President Saddam at the time but it was not possible. Officials who answered the phone said that President Saddam was in a far away place. He was far away and they did not try to connect us with him. It was impossible because the contact was not made. I left the matter because he did not want to contact me. [passage omitted] Later he contacted me and said that he was going to send his deputy, one of his deputies.

The deputy, his brother, arrived and I hopefully welcomed him. The deputy arrived and naturally we found that there was nothing hopeful. The reply was clear and frank that there was nothing odd about what happened and there should be no problem as all that happened was that a part of Iraq had now returned to Iraq.

Naturally such talk could be said to people other than myself because I knew that this was not true and Kuwait was an independent country since old times and the talk about it could be lengthy and go back in history to tens or rather hundreds of years.

Furthermore, an agreement and a treaty signed between the two countries as well as a recognition by Iraq in the days of President Hasan al-Bakr with President Saddam at the time occupying the post of vice president. The agreement was signed and I believe those present must have read it. The agreement binds the two sides to respecting each other. Who was supposed to respect each other? They were both Arabs and it is logical for them to do so.

Naturally I mentioned this to the Iraqi vice president and said I need not reply to you, for you yourself could reply to yourself: If Kuwait is part of Iraq then there is no need for you to conclude an agreement with Kuwait. Why do so if Kuwait constitutes part of Iraq?

What happened was something which we would not accept under any condition and is rejected. This will raise many other matters which there should be no need to raise. The most important thing is: Is Iraq in need of oil now? I believe the answer is no. Is Iraq in need of more territory? The answer is no. Is Iraq a poor country? The answer is no. It has rivers and it has agricultural lands. Iraq was reknown for its agricultural land, even in the pre-oil days. Iraq is a country rich in oil and in minerals. Iraq is a country with active people. Then there is no reason for Iraq to aggress upon Kuwait.

What happened had a specific objective. The type of offensive which took place before sunrise was violent and strong. We were surprised on Thursday morning to see that the preparations amassed in front of the Saudi border consisted of over 2,500 tanks and, as reported, about 150,000 soldiers equipped with armored cars, aircraft, and a lot of equipment.

It became clear to us. The brothers must have noticed that we were silent on Thursday or Friday, probably on Friday. But the silence was in order to study a new situation which was alien in substance.

And what after Kuwait? We were able in the course of these two days to realize that after Kuwait it would certainly be part of eastern Saudi Arabia. If not what was this huge force for? Why this surprise? I think that what the Kingdom of Saudi did or began to do was what the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had to do.

We prepared the Army of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to join the Arab armies if anyone wanted to commit an aggression against them. This was the aim and these were the agreements which reached and were committed to. And here are the regulations of the Arab League which pointed to these matters. But no one had ever thought of a state transgression against an Arab state. This was never on anyone's mind.

I think that logic and reason prompt us to say that in my capacity as a man responsible in the sight of God and the people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia I have found that the one and only measure was that we (?seek) officially, (?help) from the Arab, the Islamic and friendly states who wish to support the forces of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It is certain that the Iraqi Army which spread out in the desert which separates us from Kuwait and from Iraq and confronted the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I do not think, has come for nothing.

But to allow for the next step to happen, namely the occupation of a part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I think there is no one who would accept this at all. When the person lives up to his responsibility then the matter is not open to consultation or hesitation. He must embark on a matter. I or someone else must shoulder this responsibility and therefore we must shoulder it in the manner that it must be borne and endured.

I believe that there is not a single citizen in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia who did not consider this action as an action of wisdom, reason, and logic. I think that it is one of God's graces that these big powers which are the biggest in the world as far as military force is concerned, would respond to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the shortest time possible. This is a divine power. It is not our power.

It is the will of God the Almighty that made these states respond to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's call for assistance for us and Kuwait. Yes, we have a strong army, but it is not at the level of an army that has fought for eight years and on which millions of dollars have been spent.

Arab, Islamic, and friendly states came to assist the Saudi forces. As I mentioned this is the will of God the Almighty and not at all the will of anyone else. This is the first time in history that such a thing has happened. Since it has happened then it is from God the Almighty. It is also out of the world's respect for the Kingdom of

Saudi Arabia because it is known that we are a country which respects itself, and whoever respects himself is respected by others.

If we say that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's international relations and policy has, for tens of years, been built upon foundations, then this is the truth. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has never been known to have attempted to create a problem for anybody. In fact, it has avoided creating problems for any state, especially Arab states [words indistinct]. Therefore, under no circumstances would we harm any Arab state, whether a neighboring one or one that is far from us. I do not think that anybody would want to harm the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia unless he wants commit a crime against it. It is the right of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to defend itself.

The situation is as we now see it. It has begun to assume crisis proportions and international dimensions. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia cannot tell the states of the world: Do not stand alongside right. There is a principle which I think every human being knows is a principle of the Kingdom of Saudi Arbia and there is no other solution.

Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait unconditionally. It should return to Iraqi territory. The people of Kuwait under the leadership of the government of Kuwait and His Highness the Amir Jabir should return, just like Kuwait was before. This is the only possible solution. Anything else is totally unacceptable. I do not think that anybody could accept anything else. Is it in the interests of Iraq to stand against the whole world and say no.?

In the end the world today sees the statements that have been issued and the commitments which are made among the biggest states in the world. They have gotten together and liaised with one another. The end will undoubtedly be a tragedy for Iraq. I do not want a tragedy to fall on Iraq. I still call from this place as I have done previously for President Saddanm Husayn to counsel reason. He can easily announce tomorrow that he will actually be withdrawing from Kuwait part and parcel without any conditions, to Iraqi territory and leave Kuwait to its own people—to the government of Kuwait and the people of Kuwait and the leadership of Kuwait.

I do not think this is a difficult thing to do. On the contrary this might be an act of heroism. But will he respond to this? The answer rests with him and not with me. However, this is the stand of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. There is no other stand at all. We cannot accept any stand other than Kuwait returns to what it used to be previously, with God's will.

When the war ended between Iran and Iraq we were pleased. I say a fact and the truth. But to abandon our stand or negotiations—this is something that we cannot support. To negotiate about what— about a country that has been occupied? Should we give him a reward? This is out of the question. I do not think that anyone can accept this or accept it upon himself in any way whatever.

As to the future, no one can foretell the future or what will happen. But the thing I want the citizen to feel reassured about is that the armies which have come to support the Army of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are here and these forces will return to their homelands as soon as we ask them to do so. We hope that these matters will come to an end in a just and fair manner. Afterward each army will return to its homeland.

We have not entered into an agreement with any side for the stay of any armies in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for good. But at this moment I extend my grateful thanks to those who have helped us in the most difficult days and nights without any conditions.

If this proves anything it would prove the prestige of Saudi Arabia in the world. If we were to hold a referendum on which of the states of the world have stood with Saudi Arabia, we would see states from the west, from the east, from the south, and from the north. I think all states of the world—the Islamic states in Asia with more than 450 million people, the same number in Africa, also in the Middle East, and the states of Europe, the United States and Latin America, all the states of the world. [passage omitted]

Therefore, anyone who wants to ask about a solution, let him ask President Saddam Husayn. With the help of God this country will continue to exist so long as we stick to these words: There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet. This is our principle and our base. We will fight for this with all our might even with our hands.

It is a great blessing that God has honored us to serve the holy house of God, Holy Mecca, the mosque of the Prophet and the Holy Medina. This is a great blessing, a blessing from God that cannot be quantified and no one all over the world should ask us anything that contradicts the book and the Sunna definitively.

We will never listen to anyone. We will stick to the book of God and the traditions of his prophet. We will carry them out on ourselves, the elderly and the young, without restrictions, and for the sake of God. We will not accept anything more, nor anything less. [passage omitted]

We accept advice; we accept all this. Everything is moving on the correct and moderate line meant for the public good. As a matter of fact, even though I do not need to explain this again, no doubt there has been some delay in what we have said before what is currently going ahead on a straight line, regarding the consultative council and the system of foundations and rules of Saudi Arabia. I want to reaffirm to the brothers that this is the subject of my own preoccupation, night and day, and that work on it is going on very seriously. We are not going to start now. No, we already have assets. But perhaps there may have occured some circumstances and obstacles that have now ended. We are moving ahead on this line.

I reaffirm what I have already said, perhaps some 15 or 20 days ago, yes in speaking to editors: I reaffirm that we are going ahead in this direction and we hope to arrive at what we want, with the help of God, and at what the citizens want. Yes we need... and we will do this. [sentence as heard] Our systems need reviewing. Our situations which date back several years need reviewing in all the structures of this kingdom, your country. This shall be done on just one basis: Nothing must go against the Koran and the Sunna, the book of Allah and the Sunna of our prophet. What the Islamic Shari'a permits us to do, we shall do, and what the shari'a forbids us to do, we shall stop short of doing it. [passage omitted]

Naturally, and I believe it to be more correct, you share my view. When I speak of development I mean beneficial development. People are bound, now and again, to see what happens in the world, and in the regimes that go against the book and the Sunna. Our present systems were at their time most splendid. They are still in force but they need reviewing from beginning to end, concerning education, general matters, particular matters, all matters from beginning to end. This is, brothers, what is going to happen, God willing. We shall go ahead on this line and our work will come to light as soon as possible. In doing this we will seek the public good, and before anything we will see that our work does not contradict the book and the Sunna, definitively. [passage omitted]

The country is secure. It will develop in all aspects of life. No obstacle will stop us. We now do not need to call people from abroad to work for us. I hope God will realize our hopes. We must help each other. Saudis have caused no problems to anyone. They have helped people everywhere to help mankind, thank God. We must all thank God.

I am persuaded that matters will go back to normal and will be to your liking, to your liking and to mine. We belong together and we are helping one another along the same line. [applause]

### INA Reports Local Group Seeks Fahd Overthrow

*JN2411143190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Mecca, 24 Nov (INA)—The preparatory committee of the National and Pan-Arab Struggle Front in the Arabian Peninsula [Jabhat al-Nidal al-Watani wa al-Qawmi bi al-Jazirah al-'Arabiyah] has distributed a statement it issued earlier this month regarding the embassies of the Fahd regime, the United States, Britain, and France in Tunisia and Greece.

The statement, issued 12 November, calls for struggle to overthrow the regime of the betrayer of the two holy mosques and to establish a democratic system based on Arab and Islamic values.

In the statement, the front also demands the withdrawal of American and NATO forces from the Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf and stresses that these forces must not desecrate Islamic sanctities.

In another statement, a spokesman for the front also urged all national and pan-Arab forces to unify their struggle and join the front, which includes patriotic and national figures, honest military men, and militant unionists.

He also denounced the dangerous conspiracy under way in the Arabian Peninsula as a link in the American-reactionary alliance designed to strike at the pan-Arab awakening and liberation movement.

## United Arab Emirates

### Pakistan's Sharif To Send More Troops to Gulf

*BK2411163590 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Excerpts] In Abu Dhabi, the prime minister, Mr. Nawaz Sharif, and the United Arab Emirates [UAE] president, Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, held talks on matters of bilateral and regional interest with particular emphasis on the Gulf crisis. Mr. Nawaz Sharif told newsmen that he had very useful and constructive talks with the UAE president and members of the UAE Cabinet. Before leaving Dubayy for Islamabad today he said relations between Pakistan and the UAE, particularly in the economic field, would expand further. He said his talks with the UAE leaders centered on joint ventures and the Gulf crisis.

Replying to a question, the prime minister said Pakistan will send more troops to Saudi Arabia. [passage omitted]

At Dubayy Airport, the prime minister was seen off by his UAE counterpart, Shaykh Maktum Bin-Rashid and senior officials.

The prime minister has now returned to Islamabad at the conclusion of his four-day tour of the Maldives and the UAE.

### President Meets Belonogov, Discusses Crisis

*JN2511081790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0650 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Nov (WAKH)—Aleksandr Belonogov, Soviet deputy foreign minister and envoy of President Mikhail Gorbachev, left Abu Dhabi this morning for Moscow following a tour which covered a number of the countries in the region.

During his visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE], the Soviet envoy held talks with UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan on the Gulf crisis and the USSR's viewpoint regarding means to terminate the crisis.

In a statement to the WAM correspondent, Belonogov asserted that the USSR wants to exhaust all peaceful means, and does not rule out the military option as a final solution to the crisis. He pointed out that the Security Council will meet shortly to discuss the crisis and address a strong warning to Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait within a specific period which will be decided on by the Security Council members.

The Soviet envoy's tour covered the UAE, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, Qatar, and Bahrain.

### Shaykh Hamdan Comments on War, Peace Prospects

*PM2611120990 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 23 Nov 90 p 18*

[Unattributed interview with Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, minister of state for foreign affairs, in al-'Ayn; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-HAWADITH] Could the summit urged by Morocco's King Hassan II achieve its objectives and produce a solution to the acute Gulf crisis?

[Shaykh Hamdan] There can be no doubt that any Arab meeting would be desirable and useful, but after the last conference held in Cairo we see no advantage at present in holding an Arab summit conference unless there is a prior commitment to its resolutions and a clear and categorical pledge to implement the resolutions adopted by the Security Council, the Arab League, and the Arab and Islamic states. If Iraq agrees to that, then such a conference could be useful, otherwise it would be futile and meaningless under the present circumstances. [AL-HAWADITH] Do you believe that President Husni Mubarak's efforts, reflected in his surprise visits to Libya and Syria and his meetings with leaders al-Qadhdhafi and Hafiz al-Asad, and the reconciliation tour he is planning mean that he has a new concept that could achieve success?

[Shaykh Hamdan] President Husni Mubarak's efforts are good. He is a sincere and lucid president, and we have great confidence in him. We are hopeful about his attempt to close Arab ranks, particularly as the difficult and critical circumstances in the Arab world and the Arab Gulf make it necessary for President Husni Mubarak, King Hassan, and other sincere leaders like them to intercede and to rectify the tense and painful situation. The situation is undoubtedly very serious. It makes us happy to see any Arab leader making good efforts. President Husni Mubarak's initiative could only be for the good, especially as Syria and Libya are two effective and influential states in the world. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] Is Gulf coordination good and solid, or are there some gaps?

[Shaykh Hamdan] I assure you that cooperation among the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states is excellent, and we in the UAE are fully satisfied with it and are proud that the GCC has brought us together at this current sensitive stage. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] President Bush is visiting the region as part of the international activity. What results do you expect from the visit?

[Shaykh Hamdan] With the completion of the multinational forces, the significance of President Bush's visit to the region should not escape the Iraqis. I see President Bush's visit as a support for the consistent, strong, and continuing international position. I believe the military option is clear, particularly in the light of this visit which will strengthen that option more than before; although there have been peace efforts before and after the invasion but they have so far failed, and we hope they would succeed and prevent confrontation.

[AL-HAWADITH] Do you believe that peace efforts have completely failed and that war is inevitable, or is there still room for so-called last minute attempts?

[Shaykh Hamdan]: We should not despair completely. We wish Iraq well and wish it peace and security, but it should return to its senses and understand the seriousness, risks, and consequences of such a war for Iraq, Iraqi power, and the Iraqi regime. If it understood that then it would leave Kuwait and let its legitimate ruler, Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, and his heir apparent, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, and their legitimate government and good people return. If that is not achieved, then the military option would be the most likely option.

[AL-HAWADITH] If all calculations confirm that President Saddam Husayn would lose the war, because he cannot defeat the whole world, what is he banking on? Does he believe that the attacking forces would retreat after some blow or for some political or humanitarian consideration?

[Shaykh Hamdan] He is banking on splitting international ranks, but this has not happened and will not happen. International cohesion is in fact increasing and getting stronger and firmer. Even those who would not participate in a war would not oppose it. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] Will the hostages be used as a human shield for protection?

[Shaykh Hamdan] That is inhuman and we all condemn it. All the hostages should be released. Persistence in that act would make war inevitable and would limit the options.

[AL-HAWADITH] What is the Saudi Kingdom's role in what is going on in the Gulf?

[Shaykh Hamdan] The Kingdom's role is clear and has been stated by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques. The kingdom does not want war but the Iraqis must withdraw and the Kuwaiti legitimate government must be restored. We share the views of the Saudi brothers, and there is full coordination between us.

[AL-HAWADITH] Will Iraq's isolation increase or decrease?

[Shaykh Hamdan] It would increase if the obduracy continues, but if Iraq returns to its senses the situation would change and so would the Arab view of Iraq.

[AL-HAWADITH] Lebanon has regained its health, and Shaykh Zayid and the UAE played a part in that. How do you view the new situation there?

[Shaykh Hamdan] We wish Lebanon well, always. We hope that the recent step will usher prosperity and stability in Lebanon. We are prepared to give Lebanon maximum support. Only the enemies stand to benefit from a Lebanese crisis. The Arab leaders and my father [Shaykh Zayid, UAE ruler] are prepared to extend every aid to Lebanon to help it recover.

## Yemen

### Salih's Family Reportedly Flees

*PM2611134390 London AL-ZAHIRAH in Arabic 20 Nov 90 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Yemeni President's Family and Brother Flee to Germany Fearing Power Struggle Between Salih and Al-Bid"]

[Text] London—AL-ZAHIRAH has learned that the Yemeni Embassy staff in Bonn were busy two days ago receiving all members of Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's family, his brother Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad 'Abdallah Salih, and the interior ministry's under secretary for security affairs, and making arrangements for their residence in the German capital. They had arrived on a special Yemeni aircraft accompanied by a large number of security officials.

Informed Yemeni sources have told AL-ZAHIRAH that Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has sent his family there in anticipation of an eruption of the conflict in the Yemeni capital Sanaa between him and his power partner, the Yemeni Socialist Party, headed by 'Ali Salim al-Bid. Apparently, that group is there for a long stay because the Embassy has rented a number of houses and vacated some Embassy staff houses to accommodate it.

Meanwhile, four days ago the Yemeni capital, Sanaa, witnessed a drive by Yemeni citizens to tear down Iraqi flags and pictures of Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

### Press Comments on Gulf, U.S. 'Pressure' on UN

*JN2411093990 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Press review]

[Text] Regarding our country's concern with clearing the Arab atmosphere, AL-THAWRAH says the following in its editorial: The Republic of Yemen, which has never been absent from any Arab meeting to underscore the Arab nation's weight and identity, has always understood the importance of organizing its efforts to clear the Arab atmosphere out of its firm positions, commitments, and priorities that demonstrate that the strength of the nation lies in its unity. In light of this, the Republic of Yemen believes that the many challenges produced by the Gulf crisis should be faced with Arab consensus and unity to contain the crisis and solve it on the Arab level, provided that coordination be held in advance at the highest level, regardless of the differences in relations among some Arab countries.

The paper says: The crisis was the main cause of driving a wedge among the Arab League members. Placing the higher interests of the Arab nation over small matters and transitory and personal interests is necessary to unite Arab ranks and restore the wall of Arab solidarity—which could collapse or be demolished—in order to face the dangers and challenges that are threatening Arab security and to warn of the dangers of a destructive war the consequences of which cannot be predicted.

The paper notes that finding an Arab solution to the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait through a meeting among the parties on any level will remain the only real way out that also restores the Arab position and in which the decision will be unified and the ice will be melted by the warmth of the meeting, historical ties, and common destiny. The Republic of Yemen has repeated the call to Arab countries in the present circumstances to intensify their efforts, contacts, and endeavors regarding the parties to the conflict; to soften the rigid positions on the minisummit called by Moroccan King Hassan II; to bring viewpoints closer among the neighborly sisterly countries; and to return the situation to normal.

Concluding its editorial, the paper says: Today's call for this approach is based on two facts: First, solving the Iraqi-Kuwaiti problem should be achieved through the Arab community with international participation; second, the imminent danger facing the Arab nation now threatens us all equally. This means that all Arabs should face the (?international) danger collectively. This honest intention also reflects the principled policy followed by the Republic of Yemen as a clear policy based on the objectives of the glorious revolutions of 26 September and 14 October and the policy of positive neutrality, nonalignment, mutual respect, noninterference in other countries' affairs, and adherence and commitment to charters and treaties, the UN Charter, and the Arab League Charter.

On the United States and its neglect of its responsibilities and duties, AL-JUMHURIYAH says the following in its editorial: Since the United States announced its intention to extract an international decision to destroy Iraq through a UN Security Council resolution, all eyes have been focused on the international organization. Despite many observers' (?assessment) that the Security Council will not share Washington's desire to threaten world security, the American intention of war, however, raises

fears that Washington might exploit the current circumstances in Moscow and London, in particular, and subjugate the will of these two members to its own.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: If Paris and Beijing are incapable of withstanding American pressure—directed at France through European countries and, in Beijing's case, through threats to impose an economic and technological blockade—Washington's hope to control the Security Council has become its only option, after the U.S. Administration failed to convince American public opinion and the Congress of its objective to embark on a serious military battle against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Concluding its editorial, AL-JUMHURIYAH says: The peoples of the world might understand the circumstances of Moscow and Beijing and the pressures against Paris, but humanity will not forgive these countries' and their leaders' abandonment of their responsibilities and duties to stop American arrogance. Inasmuch as the entire world has valued international diplomacy and sought excuses for the disparity in the Soviet, French, and PRC statements and positions, nobody can respect the positions of these countries if they approve any Security Council draft resolution whose victims will be innocent souls and extensive resources just because George Bush and the Zionist lobby want to avenge the superiority of the Iraqi people. There is no other justification, because the world is aware that this is a game to maintain the principles of international law in the style of the American cowboy.

## Iraqi Awqaf Minister Visits for 'Consultations'

### Arrives in Sanaa 24 Nov

*JN2511164890 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] 'Abdallah Fadil, minister of awqaf and religious affairs, arrived in Sanaa today on a visit to the Republic of Yemen lasting several days.

In a statement cited by the INA reporter in Sanaa, Fadil said his visit to Yemen is aimed at coordination and bilateral cooperation between the Yemeni Awqaf and Guidance Ministry and the Iraqi Awqaf and Religious Affairs Ministry in the field of Islamic activity and guidance. He stressed the importance of coordination and consultations between officials in the two ministries under the circumstances and challenges facing the Arab and Islamic nations following the foreign deployment in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula.

### Concludes Visit, Departs

*JN2611125790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Sanaa, 26 Nov (INA)—'Abdallah Fadil, minister of awqaf and religious affairs, left Sanaa today after a two-day visit to the Republic of Yemen. During the visit the Iraqi minister held talks with Muhsin Muhammad al-'Ulufi, Yemeni minister of awqaf and guidance, and a number of Yemeni officials on ways to reinforce fraternal ties between the two sisterly countries in the field of awqaf, religious affairs, and guidance.

## Further on Visit by DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah

### Meets With Salih on Gulf, Palestine

*JN2411134290 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, received at his office today brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. Hawatimah briefed the president on developments in the Palestine question in light of the escalating popular Palestinian intifadah against the Zionist entity in the occupied Arab territories.

They also discussed Gulf crisis developments and the challenges facing the Arab nation as a result of the foreign military presence in the region.

The brother president stated our country's support for the Palestine question and all efforts to solve the Gulf crisis peacefully and within the Arab framework.

The meeting was attended by brother Presidential Council Member Salim Salih Muhammad.

### Meets With Prime Minister

*JN2611134390 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Brother Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas today received brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], who is currently visiting our country.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian Revolutions and the latest developments in the Palestinian arena in light of the escalating brave Palestinian intifadah in confronting the Zionist enemy and its savage repressive measures against the Palestinian people.

They also reviewed the Gulf crisis and efforts to reach a peaceful solution to it within an Arab framework.

The meeting was attended by [name indistinct], the DFLP representative in Sanaa.

## PFLP's Habash Praises Sanaa's Stance on Gulf

*JN2511160690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Excerpts] Brother Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], left Sanaa today after a several-day's visit to our country. During the visit, he discussed with the brother officials in the General People's Congress and the

Yemeni Socialist Party aspects of cooperation between the two organizations and the PFLP.

In a statement to the YEMENI NEWS AGENCY-SABA', brother George Habash expressed his great joy for meeting with brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman, and his deputy, brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid. [passage omitted]

He also expressed satisfaction with the determination of the Republic of Yemen—leadership, government, and people—to face the imperialist schemes to strike not only at Iraq, but at all nationalist regimes in the Arab region.

Brother George Habash said the most shining example of this determination is the position conveyed by the brother Presidential Council chairman to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. He expressed his deep pride as an Arab in the fact that the Presidential Council chairman was speaking for all Arab masses. [passage omitted]

## President Says No Political Prisoners in Country

*JN2511155890 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman, and brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council vice chairman, have received a visiting Amnesty International delegation led by Secretary General Ian Martin. They discussed issues related to strengthening cooperation between our country and Amnesty International.

Amnesty International's secretary general briefed the chairman and his deputy on the organization's humanitarian activities and role in protecting human rights in the world. He expressed his appreciation and admiration for the democratic steps and the climate of freedom in our country. He said: Our presence in Yemen is in recognition of this democracy. We hope the Republic of Yemen will become an example to be followed by states in the region.

The brother chairman praised the great humanitarian role played by Amnesty International to protect and honor human rights. He explained that democracy and freedom have been adopted to build a strong structure for the new Yemen. He stressed that the Republic of Yemen will continue to support this active human rights organization to help it fulfill its noble humanitarian mission. He said there was not one political prisoner in our country, and that Yemen will continue to support human rights in accordance with the Constitution and abide strictly by all international agreements on human rights.

The meeting was attended by brother Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

**Alleged Saddam Withdrawal Formula Reported**

*PM2711113790 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic*
*24 Nov 90 p 1*

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "'UKAZ Sources Reveal: Iraqi Formula Ready for Announcing Withdrawal From Kuwait and United Nations"]

[Text] The Iraqi president yesterday received a specific warning via more than one European and Arab capital about the danger of the intransigent position which he is adopting on withdrawal from Kuwait and toward the efforts to avert confrontation and war.

The Soviet Union and China informed the Iraqi regime (via its ambassador in Beijing) of the tenor of the warning and the possibilities of the situation's exploding at any moment if the Iraqi regime continues its defiance of the international community. That happened immediately following a meeting between the Chinese and Soviet foreign ministers.

Sanaa too informed President Saddam Husayn of the tenor of that warning, immediately after U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's visit to Sanaa the day before yesterday, and of the U.S. determination to implement the international resolutions and end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait soon.

At the same time, the Iraqi foreign minister, who recently visited various Arab capitals, was informed of the firm inclination to use force unless the Iraqi forces withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait, especially in view of these capitals' rejection of the principle of holding dialogue with the Iraqi regime before leaving Kuwait.

Arab sources have emphasized that an extraordinary summit would be held immediately after an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait to discuss the aspects of the dispute and resolve the outstanding issues within an Arab framework. Baghdad has also been informed that the idea of launching an international strike against the Iraqi forces as they withdraw is not in prospect and that what is required is simply withdrawal from Kuwait, the restoration of legitimacy, and the hostages' release.

But the sources emphasized that that commitment must be linked to a clear and specific commitment—to refrain from interfering in neighboring states' international affairs, to abjure the use of force in resolving problems or realizing demands, and to acknowledge the importance of resorting to dialogue via bilateral contacts or through regional or international organizations in the future.

It is worth mentioning that the contacts currently taking place between several capitals and the Iraqi regime are expected to produce a specific position, as a result of which the Iraqi regime may decide to withdraw at the last moment before the Security Council issues a resolution on the use of force or immediately after such a resolution is issued. But the Iraqi response expected within the coming few days will determine whether or not the Security Council will convene to adopt a resolution on the use of force.

Informed sources believe that the extensive contacts, especially among the Security Council's five major states, have produced a complete conviction of the need to take a decision on the use on force after issuing a joint warning to the Baghdad regime to give it enough time to withdraw.

The same sources emphasized that the Iraqi president has reached the conviction, especially after his visit to Kuwait yesterday, that the cost of war will be high and that he has to decide quickly whether to accept the suitable way out proposed by some of his advisers to guarantee the safeguarding of his political assets after withdrawal.

'UKAZ's informed sources in Amman have said that the limited options available to the Iraqi president may force him to announce withdrawal at the last moment and address a statement to the Arab and Islamic nations, some of whose clauses we publish as follows:

"While facing tyrannical forces and infidel fleets, your proud Iraq—the Iraq of glory, heroism, and honor—is aware that conspiracy against this nation is great and the vast deployment in the region is aimed against this nation's security, unity, and achievements. The objective is to deal a mortal blow to all that it has achieved and is achieving for its steadfast peoples."

"While confronting that challenge, indeed that dangerous conspiracy, your Iraq, with its valiant heroes, realizes more than anyone else that the forces of oppression and tyranny are laying in wait for it to seize any available opportunity to annihilate and destroy it and destroy its real forces that are capable of confronting their crimes."

"Because of all this, for the sake of the common Arab destiny, for the sake of our struggling peoples, and for the sake of a future in which we aspire to further build our intrinsic power, your proud Iraq finds that the higher interests prompt it to deny these enemies the opportunity to realize their objectives and schemes. Therefore we have decided the following:

"First, to withdraw from the Iraqi territories in Kuwait.

"Second, to appeal to the Arab and Islamic nations to unite their ranks, gather their strength, and unite over their aims in order to fight the forces of oppression.

"Third, to withdraw from UN membership in protest at the international collusion with the United States and the Western states.

"Fourth, to continue to demand our legitimate rights to Kuwait and reject all offers made to force us to abandon that historic, legitimate right."

But the same sources emphasize that the Iraqi president, who has discussed that formula with his advisers and some of his friends and supporters over the past two weeks, appears unable to bear the effects of defeat and announce withdrawal, and that he may not respond to that formula but prefer to detonate the situation at any moment, because he believes that by agreeing to withdraw he would lose his assets and would be paving the way for his regime's downfall.

Once the Gulf crisis is over, a new resolution is expected to be issued through the Security Council on nuclear disarmament in the Middle East region, to guarantee the security and stability of its states and peoples.

### State Reportedly Tried To Sell Oil Via Libya

*AU2311152090 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German 23-24 Nov 90 p 23*

["vwd" report: "Iraq Wanted To Sell Oil Via Libya"]

[Text] Hamburg—In early October Iraq tried to sell crude oil to German and other customers via Libya. The Hamburg Mineral Oil Economy Association (MWV) briefed its members on these proceedings in a letter of 6 November, a MWV spokesman reported.

### Ten British Nationals, Wives Depart 27 Nov

*JN2711153090 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] In implementation of leader President Saddam Husayn's order that the British nationals hosted by the Iraqi people whose wives have come to Iraq to visit them be allowed to leave the country with their wives, or to stay if they wish, 10 British nationals hosted by the Iraqi people left Baghdad for home today with their wives, who arrived in the country last week. The 10 British women expressed great appreciation for President Saddam Husayn's decision to allow their husbands to leave Iraq or to stay if they wish. In interviews with an INA [IRAQI NEWS AGENCY] correspondent, the British women described the leader president's decision as a humanitarian initiative that reflects Iraq's good intentions toward the establishment of a permanent peace in the region. In similar interviews, the British nationals leaving with their wives expressed thanks and appreciation for the good treatment and hospitality they were accorded throughout the period they were hosted in Iraq. They expressed hope that peace will prevail in the region as soon as possible, reaffirming the need to resolve all problems peacefully to spare the region a destructive war.

### Swedish Nationals Allowed To Leave

*JN2611154590 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1513 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] The National Assembly has approved by a majority vote allowing the remaining Swedish guests of Iraq to travel to their country or stay in Iraq as they wish. This was approved during the National Assembly's session held today under Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih. The Belgian and Canadian parliamentary delegations, currently on visit to Iraq, attended the session.

In a speech at the beginning of the discussion, Sa'di Mahdi Salih said: The decision to bar foreigners in Iraq from leaving is one of the decisions taken to protect the Iraqi people and their great achievements; to defend the Arab nation's honor and security, which is being threatened; and to avert the specter of war, which, if it occurs, will have destructive consequences that will not be limited to a specific geographic area but will cover the whole world.

The National Assembly speaker urged world public opinion to take a stand in accordance with the principles of justice and fraternity among nations and peoples, balanced cooperation, and mutual interests, and not on the basis that the United States of America is superpower number one which must get everything without caring in the least what the world may think.

He explained that the Iraqi people, under President Saddam Husayn, for humanitarian reasons are allowing their guests the freedom to leave, although the reason that prompted Iraq to restrict this freedom still exists and the brandishing of aggression is still as serious as before. He added: U.S. President Bush sends tanks, aircraft carriers, missiles, and more armed troops to the region instead of sending presents on Christmas and the New Year to the citizens of the region, which celebrates, together with the entire world, those two occasions.

### Saddam Allows Three Americans To Leave

*NC2611202290 Paris AFP in English 1957 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 26 (AFP)—Only three out of some 1,100 Americans held hostage by Iraq will be allowed to leave here with family members, in accordance with an announcement Monday [26 November] by President Saddam Husayn, informed U.S. sources said.

Iraqi officials had said earlier Mr. Husayn was allowing the departure of some American hostages with family members currently visiting them in Iraq but did not specify how many.

The officials said the Iraqi president had decided on the release on Monday while receiving the families of those being held.

Iraqi television broadcast footage of that meeting, showing three women and some men accompanying them and introduced them as the families of the freed hostages.

A diplomatic source had said Sunday that about 30 wives of American hostages were expected in Baghdad to capitalize on Mr. Husayn's offer to let detainees spend the season's holidays with their families.

On October 31, Baghdad announced that relatives of "guests" (the official name for the hostages) could visit their family members during the Christmas and New Year holidays.

"We want peace...not just for us, but for all humanity, and in particular for those who need it, the Palestinians," Mr. Husayn was quoted by the official INA news agency as saying to the families.

Some 3,000 Westerners and Japanese, almost all men, are being detained to dissuade a U.S.-led multinational force in the Gulf from launching an attack to drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait, which Baghdad's forces invaded on August 2.

Washington has repeatedly asked Baghdad to free all U.S. citizens but has also pushed for a United Nations resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq if it fails to withdraw from Kuwait.

### Speaker Meets With Visiting American Families

*JN2511100990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih has affirmed that the Iraqi people under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn are endeavoring and struggling to defend human rights. He added that they believe in peace as a firm course for coexistence among nations, whereas Bush and his allies are threatening the lives of millions of people of U.S. and other nationalities.

During a meeting last night with the families of three U.S. guests hosted in Iraq, who are currently visiting Iraq in response to the invitation to visit on Christmas and New Year, the National Assembly speaker reiterated Iraq's commitment to a rational and quiet dialogue to resolve any crisis or problem away from tension-creating measures or threats.

Members of the guests' families expressed thanks for the Iraqi people's invitation for them to visit their relatives. They indicated that many facts which have become known to them during their current visit were unknown to them before their arrival in Iraq, due to the misrepresentation of facts by the U.S. news media with the aim of denying the public the chance of knowing the true facts. They also valued Iraq's initiatives to help reach solutions to the region's problems to spare the region and the world the dangers of war and the resulting catastrophes.

### Jasim Confers With Swiss Delegation

*JN1811141690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 18 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Nov (INA)—Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim today received Edgar Ohler, head of a Swiss parliamentary delegation, and the delegation members.

The minister hailed the delegation's initiative to organize a peace conference in Geneva based on President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative to solve all the problems in the region. He said: We take pride in that position just as we take pride in the generosity of the Swiss people, who have been the first to send medicine to the Iraqi people.

The culture and information minister referred to the foreign nationals hosted by the Iraqi people. He said that Iraq was obliged to take that measure to prevent an outbreak of war in the region. He added: Our awareness of the possible results of a war, should it breaks out, is what makes us adhere to our call for peace as declared in President Saddam Husayn's initiative.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim explained that media reports give evidence every day that the majority of the world wants peace, while the U.S. Administration's resolutions seek war. He added that the U.S. forces have come to seize the oil and take control of the world's source of energy.

The head of the Swiss parliamentary delegation stressed that the Swiss Government and people were ready to offer more medical aid to the Iraqi people in confirmation of the profound relations between the Iraqi and Swiss peoples and governments. He also expressed Switzerland's total readiness to host a peace conference in Geneva on the basis of President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative.

He also said the Swiss people supported the Iraqi people's causes, stressing that Switzerland will not take any position hostile to Iraq because it believes that Iraq makes good resolutions for world peace.

### Ramadan Receives Jordanian Delegation

*JN1811172990 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Nov 90*

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, today received the visiting popular delegation from Jordan led by lawyer Salim Mahmud al-Qudat. The first deputy prime minister said: The Arab masses' genuine pan-Arab position, their growing enthusiasm in defending the Arab nation's dignity, existence, and fate, and their rejection of subservience and the foreign occupation of the land of sanctities have proved that the Arab nation is stronger than all forms of conspiracy.

Ramadan added that America's slaves and allies—the rulers of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], Mubarak, and others—have revealed their true nature and their false slogans calling for the liberation of Jerusalem and for Arab unity. He declared that anyone wanting to liberate Palestine would not open the doors of Mecca and al-Madinah to the armies and fleets of the Zionists' allies, America, Britain, and the Al David [pro-Camp David accords] agent Arabs.

Salim Mahmud al-Qudat declared that the Arab people—women, men, children, and the elderly—are supporting the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, who is raising the banner of liberation and dignity and who is challenging, with the courage of a knight, all the tyrants of infidelity and aggression. He also stated that the Arab nation will achieve victory over its enemies and that the shaky thrones will fall because the Arab masses have discovered these thrones' agentry and treason in the interest of the Americans and Zionists, the Arabs' enemies.

### Ramadan Meets New Italian, Canadian Ambassadors

*JN2111054090 Baghdad INA in English 1745 GMT 19 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 19, INA—Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy premier, received here today Mr. Franco Tempesta on the assumption of his new post as the Italian ambassador to Iraq.

Mr. Ramadan reviewed with the Italian ambassador bilateral relations and the need to promote them for the interest of both countries. He stressed the importance for exerting sincere efforts to achieve peace and avoid war consequences, in the Arab area, by the intensive presence of American and Western forces in the region.

Mr. Ramadan received also today Mr. John Christoffer Paul [name as received] on the assumption of his new post as the Canadian ambassador to Iraq.

During the meeting the two officials discussed bilateral relations stressing the need for continued work to develop and expand these relations in all fields.

### Peace Organization Chief Meets With Australians

*JN2111130490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Nov (INA)—'Adnan Dawud Salman, head of the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization, met here today with an Australian peace messengers' delegation comprising Thomas Uren, former Australian minister of local government and administrative services, and Mrs. Janine Haines, leader of the Australian Democrats and member of the Australian Senate.

'Adnan Dawud Salman affirmed that the United States is attempting to find flimsy excuses for an aggression against the Iraqi people through its presence on Arab lands and also through provocative and conspiratorial practices against Iraq.

The Australian delegation condemned the hostile U.S. and British positions against Iraq, affirming the need for the language of dialogue and understanding to prevail rather than that of aggression, which would lead the region and the world to a destructive war.

### Delegation Meets Speaker

*JN2211101390 Baghdad INA in English 1140 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 21, INA—Mr. Sa'di Mahdi Salih, speaker of the National Assembly, met here on Tuesday the Australian peace delegation headed by Former Australian Minister of Planning and Local Government Thomas Uren, now visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, the speaker confirmed Iraq's willingness to boosting friendship with all peace-loving countries on basis of mutual interests and reviewed Iraq's peace initiatives to maintain peace and stability in the region and ease tension, escalated by Zionism and imperialism in collaboration with their agents in the region.

Mr. Uren expressed high appreciation over Iraq's initiatives to save the region from a destructive war.

Mr. Salih also received last night the Greek parliamentary delegation, currently visiting Iraq, and reviewed with its members dimensions of the British-U.S. greeds in the region confirming that the tension aimed at plundering Arab wealth and imposing the colonial hegemony over the region regardless of the interests of its peoples.

The Australian and Greek delegations affirmed that forces of justice and peace are standing alongside Iraq to foil the inhuman economic blockade imposed on the Iraqis.

### Archbishop Capucci Lauds Peace Initiatives

*JN2311073290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Nov 90*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 20 Nov (INA)—Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, the deported archbishop of Jerusalem, has paid tribute to the Iraqi peace initiatives and lauded the leadership of President Saddam Husayn who is making efforts to attain a just and honorable peace. He also praised the leadership's resort to dialogue and logic in a bid to achieve justice, and make it prevail over injustice and falsehood.

In a statement published in the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH today, Archbishop Capucci said that President Saddam Husayn demonstrated, through his excellent positions in the current Gulf crisis circumstances, political shrewdness and farsightedness that reveal a warm spirit and desire for peace which were behind his calls for peace in order to spare the shedding of blood, even though the United States and its ally, the Zionist entity, are seeking to dangerously escalate the situation. [passage omitted]

On the Vatican's position on the U.S. escalation in the Gulf, Archbishop Capucci affirmed that the Vatican rejects and abhors war, since the crisis can be resolved through peaceful means, particulary considering that

Iraq is ready for this and that it has made repeated affirmations to this effect, Capucci added.

Archbishop Capucci said that the U.S. reluctance to implement the military option was not for noble reasons but for fear of the consequences and results of a war on all levels.

Concluding his statement, Archbishop Capucci asserted that the world has begun to develop its position after it began to realise the truth in the region, particularly considering that many of the parties which beat the drums of war in the first month of the crisis in Europe and elsewhere have begun to reconsider their positions. In the end, Bush will find himself alone, Archbishop Capucci said.

### Ramadan Explains 'Plot'

*JN2111193890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Baghdad INA in Arabic at 1830 GMT transmits a service message killing the following item and running a corrected version; the corrected version is identical except that it omits paragraph four in its entirety]

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, today received Jerusalem Archbishop in exile Hilarion Capucci and the accompanying delegation.

The first deputy prime minister said that the escalation of the plot and the aggression by America and its allies and agent Arab rulers, such as agents Husni and Fahd, is the reason for Iraq's principled adherence to the restoration of the usurped Palestinian rights, the end to the Zionist occupation of all occupied Arab territory, and the real and practical struggle of the people of Palestine.

Ramadan added that throughout their history, Arabs have not accepted injustice or subjugation. The era of humiliation in the Arab arena has ended, and the revolution of dignity, freedom, and independence has begun. He noted that justice is stronger than falsehood and said that Palestine will return to its legitimate kinfolk regardless of the plots of the forces of evil and infidelity and the traitors such as Al David [Mubarak] and the rulers of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia].

Archbishop Capucci said that Arab reality began to change through the leadership of the brave Arab leader, President Saddam Husayn. He added that the formula of strategic parity, which the defeatist traitors from among the Arab rulers used as a pretext, has been reversed, and that America and its allies and slaves have mobilized their troops and fleets to try to strike a balance with superior Iraqi power.

He added that all the Arab masses are on the side of leader President Saddam Husayn, because it has been his leadership that has made the Arabs raise their heads high and restored Arab glories and pride. He declared that this battle the Bush administration is waging is the battle of all honest Arabs who, on the side of the Iraqi people and their enlightened leader Saddam Husayn, defend their rights, dignity, and independence.

The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Da'wud Salman, chairman of the Friendship and Peace Organization in Iraq.

### Meets With Salih

*JN2311185190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA)—Speaker of the National Assembly Sa'di Mahdi Salih has reiterated that Iraq is working for a rightful and durable peace and a negotiated solution of all problems. Iraq also insists on the restitution of Palestinian rights and the Zionist withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, he added.

Speaking during a meeting today with Jerusalem's exiled Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, Salih said the United States had been scheming against Iraq long before 2 August. Unhappy by Iraq's acquisition of advanced technology, he added, the United States had prompted the late rulers of Kuwait to destroy Iraq's economy.

Hilarion Capucci suggested the convening of an international peace conference to work out a comprehensive arrangement whereby all regional disputes would be resolved without recourse to force. He said that the current situation is an outgrowth of long-standing problems, and called for all problems to be worked out along the lines of President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative.

## Sudanese Information Minister Arrives for Visit

### Stresses Role of Media

*JN2211100990 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 21, INA—Mr. Muhammad Khawjali Salihin, Sudanese information minister, arrived here this afternoon heading an official delegation on a two-day visit to Iraq.

The Sudanese minister, in a statement to INA, said that this visit to Iraq came within the frame of exchanged consultations and views between Iraq and Sudanese information officials over current Arab issues.

He renewed Sudan's stand for the need to solve all of the region's problems within the Arab context, stressing the important role of Arab mass media, in this dangerous period of current Arab life in uncovering the dubious policies of the West Zionist [as received] media against Arab issues.

The Sudanese minister was received at the airport by Mr. Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister [words indistinct].

### Confers With Jasim

*JN2211124790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA)—Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim received Sudanese Information Minister Muhammad Khawjali Salihin and his delegation this evening.

The minister reviewed Iraq's peace policy and its initiatives to resolve all regional problems, reaffirming that His Excellency President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative is the proper framework for resolving all regional problems, especially the Palestine question, without U.S. pressures and bayonets.

The culture and information minister paid tribute to the noble pan-Arab positions of the Sudanese people and leadership toward Iraq, which is confronting the designs of Zionism and the United States as well as those of their allies—designs that seek to undermine Iraq's scientific accomplishments.

They exchanged views on ways to enhance the media cooperation between the two fraternal states in a way that corresponds to the situation in the Gulf region the Arabian Gulf. The Sudanese delegation expressed the solidarity of Sudan—leadership and people—with Iraq and its courageous position against all forms of foreign aggression against the Arab nation.

The meeting was attended by the Sudanese ambassador in Baghdad, the ministry's under secretary, and a number of directors general at the ministry.

### Departs; Issues Statement

*JN2311151190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA)—Sudanese Information Minister Muhammad Khawjali Salihin and his delegation left Baghdad today following a two-day visit.

During the visit the Sudanese information minister held talks with Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information. The talks dealt with ways to bolster media cooperation between the two fraternal countries in light of the current stage experienced by the Arab nation in general and the Gulf region and Arabian Peninsula in particular.

He was seen off at the airport by Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim and the Sudanese ambassador in Baghdad.

In a press statement, the Iraqi and Sudanese information ministers welcomed the statement issued by the participants in the meeting of the information minister and officials from Jordan, Yemen, Palestine, Mauritania, and Tunisia held in Baghdad on 14 November. During that meeting, they held consultations on means of enhancing media coordination among Arab countries as required by the current stage.

A fraternal spirit and a high sense of responsibility prevailed during the two information ministers's talks on the serious challenges to the our Arab nation in view of the current circumstances experienced by the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula, as well as the brutal military blockade and the aggressive military threat imposed by the United States and its allies against Iraq. The two ministers also consulted on the Zionist enemy's campaign of repression, killing, and displacement against our Palestinian Arab people and their valiant intifadah, noting that this campaign receives encouragement, support, and financing from the United States. They also exchanged views on the two countries' media coordination concerning the pan-Arab media's role in the current situation. This role entails enhancing awareness in both countries of the dangers of the occupation by the United States and its allies of our holy land in the Arabian Peninsula and the oil sources in the Arabian Gulf, and of the escalating U.S. threats in preparation for an aggression against Iraq.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim and Muhammad Khawjali Salihin discussed means of bolstering media cooperation between the two countries in order to confront the intensive hostile media campaign launched by the United States, Britain, their Zionist ally, and their agents in the region. This campaign is designed to sow fear and desperation in the Arab ranks and to distort the proud and heroic position adopted by the leadership and people of Iraq in defense of the Arab nation's rights and dignity. The two ministers noted that this campaign is being launched against Iraq because it is confronting the evil, unjust, and tyrannical forces, as well as the blackout imposed on the valiant, heroic, escalating intifadah, which is taking place throughout occupied Palestine against the Zionist enemy and its criminal tools of repression.

The two ministers demanded that the situation in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula be tackled through peaceful means within a comprehensive solution of all Middle East problems, headed by the Palestine question. They referred in this regard to President Saddam Husayn's initiative of 12 August 1990 which provides a good basis for such a solution.

The two information ministers agreed that the Arabs are capable of resolving their problems by themselves, provided that they do it freely and away from the pressures, threats, and extortion exercised by the United States against the Arab countries through its aggressive military campaign in the region and through its feverish attempts to impose evil wills on the international community. In this regard, they noted the UN Security Council's reluctance to condemn the Zionist entity for its ugly crimes against our militant Palestinian Arab people, and its refusal to take any practical measures to impose its resolutions on the Zionist entity. They declared that this exposes a double standard and selective approach in observing the principles of international law.

Sudanese Information Minister Muhammad Khawjali Salihin hailed the heroic steadfastness of the Iraqi people in the face of the United States' aggressive economic and military campaign. He also hailed the steadfastness of our valiant Palestinian people in the face of the Zionist campaigns of repression, killing, and annihilation.

### Ba'th, Spanish Parties Sign Cooperation Protocol

*JN2211101290 Baghdad INA in English 1350 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov.21, INA—Arab Ba'th Socialist Party [ABSP] and the European-Spanish Democratic Alliance Party emphasised their established stance of respect towards international justice and work for stabilizing principles of democracy and peace.

In a protocal for cooperation, signed here today, the two parties have called for consolidation of struggle for encountering all forms of imperialistic challenges. The protocol was signed by director of External Relations Bureau at the regional leadership of the ABSP, and for the European Democratic Alliance Party by Mr. Jose Maria [name a received] president [of] the Spanish Bloc of the party.

In his address during the signing Germany [as received], Mr. Jose Maria emphasised that the protocol comes as an embodiment of his party's commitment to supporting struggle of the Iraqi people and its steadfastness and defence of its sovereignty.

He has referred to developments of the situation in the Arab Gulf, expressing Gulf conviction of the European-Spanish Democratic Alliance Party that the Gulf problem is a purely Arab issue and its resolution must be within the Arab context, without any foreign intervention.

### Ramadan Confers With Jihad Official on Crisis

*JN2211164790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1612 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA)—First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan today received Dr. Nadir Bayyud al-Tamimi, mufti of the Palestine Liberation Army and official spokesman of the Islamic Jihad Movement—Bayt al-Maqdis.

The first deputy prime minister said that the battle will be a decisive one in which the Arabs will achieve the greatest victory in their modern history; they will liberate the Arab people, their lands, and their wealth from the filth of the plotters, traitors, and agents.

Dr. Nadir al-Tamimi said that the Arab masses and Muslims are fighting in the trench led by President Saddam Husayn in defense of the Muslims' holy places and Arab dignity, future, and wealth. He declared that all evildoers, infidels, and lowly slaves among the Arab rulers will be wiped out at the hands of the mujahidin who believe in their rights and make sacrifices for the sake of their objectives and principles.

### Ramadan, UK's Brown Discuss Solution to Crisis

*JN2211172990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1634 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and first deputy prime minister, has said that Iraq presented its peaceful position clearly and that it is ready for dialogue and negotiation as they are the shortest road to a lasting and comprehensive peace in all issues in the region in accordance with the principles of international legitimacy, not American legitimacy. During his meeting today with Ron Brown, member of the opposition Labor Party and the British labor movement, Ramadan said that Bush and Thatcher do not respect their people because they use them as tools for war and aggression. Therefore, they do not respect human rights anywhere in the world.

RCC member Ramadan noted that terrorism and piracy and the imposition of an economic blockade on Iraq are a public violation of human rights and an encroachment on all international laws and charters behind which the U.S. Administration is hiding and with which it trades to achieve its intentions to occupy Arab territory and control oil sources.

The British MP declared that stability and peace in the region are realized through the solution of all issues, particularly the Palestine question. He noted his support for President Saddam Husayn's initiative of 12 August and described it as an objective, fair, and comprehensive initiative. He said that the British people are moving toward peace and against Thatcher's policy which is far from democracy. Her policy, he added, amounts to interference in the internal affairs of other people and an alliance with Bush to reach their own objectives through dictatorial methods that civilized and insightful people reject.

### Mauritanian President's Personal Envoy Arrives

*JN2211180790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA)—Mauritanian Interior Minister Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba, personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn from his brother Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed, arrived in Baghdad today.

The Mauritanian minister was received at the airport by Interior Minister Samir Muhammad 'Abd-al-Wahhab and the Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad.

### Comments on Gulf

*JN2311114290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA)—Mauritanian Interior Minister Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba has supported President Saddam Husayn's intiative of 12 August.

He said in a statement to the INA: We are working toward solving all pending problems in the Arab region within the framework of the indivisible whole in accordance with President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative based on the UN resolutions regarding this issue.

He added: The solution to the Gulf crisis lies within the framework of the Arab solution, which must be adopted and accepted by the entire Arab family without any foreign intervention and away from the threats of force or its actual use against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Referring to the dangers of the U.S. and Zionist threats, he affirmed that the Arab nation must do all it can to find practical solutions to all the problems and crises in the Arab region to avert the dangers of certain war, which the United States and its allies continue to advocate.

The Mauritanian interior minister said: What confirms the dangerous U.S. trends and aggressive intentions are the latest statements made by the Zionist entity's Prime Minister, whose only target is aggression and expansion at the expense of the Arab nation and its dignity.

Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba warned of the dangerous moves being made by U.S. President George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker to issue a resolution allowing the use of armed force against Iraq. He said that using military force is useless, noting the need to depend on dialogue and negotiations as a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

In his speech, he referred to Iraq's decision to release all foreign nationals in batches beginning the 25th of next month [December], describing it as a good decision.

He reasserted the fraternal Mauritanian people's condemnation of the imperialist and Zionist circles' steps to impose the unjust resolution against Iraq in an attempt to starve its defenseless people and prevent children's milk, medicine, and food from reaching Iraq.

He said: This resolution is against Iraq and the Arab nation and does not serve the peaceful trends for establishing real peace in the region, and it aims at inhumanely starving Muslim Arab people.

### Confers With Saddam

*JN2411145890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1436 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba, Mauritanian minister of interior, post, and telecommunications and personal envoy of Mauritanian President Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya.

The Mauritanian envoy delivered a letter from President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya to President Saddam Husayn dealing with the close brotherly relations between the two countries as well as the current situation in the Arab region.

The meeting was attended by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim.

### Leaves Baghdad

*JN2411200790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1848 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba, Mauritanian minister of interior, post, and communications and personal envoy of Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, left Baghad at noon today. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Ministry officials and the Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad.

## Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad for Visit

*JN2211205490 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1940 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Brother president leader Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Baghdad this morning on an official visit of several days to fraternal Iraq.

### Meets With 'Aziz

*JN2311203190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2016 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, today.

They discussed the latest developments in the Arab arena, the situation in the occupied territories, and the Palestinian people's struggle against occupation. They also discussed the recent statements made by the Zionist entity's leaders, and the resolute stands that the Arab nation and the international community should adopt against the Zionist entity's flagrant expansionist, aggressive approach.

## Sa'id Meets Dutch, Danish Red Cross Officials

*JN2311123390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1539 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA)—Health Minister 'Abd-al-Salam Muhammad Sa'id today met with Peter Jettez [name as received], director general of the International Relations Department at the Netherlands Red Cross Society, and Nels Alloneck [name as received], head of the International Relations Department at the Danish Red Cross Society, who are currently visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, they discussed cooperation between the Ministry and the two societies as well as the effects of the economic blockade imposed on Iraq in contravention of international norms and laws. The minister reviewed the implications of the aggressive U.S. scheme against Iraq as well as the economic blockade against it. He added that the conspiracy reached the point of preventing the shipment of medicines whose exportation to Iraq was provided for in contracts.

The head of the Netherlands delegation stressed the need to end the economic blockade on Iraq, especially as regards the shipment of medicines and foodstuffs. He added that he would work, in cooperation with world health and humanitarian organizations, to break this blockade.

The Netherlands and Danish Red Cross societies had earlier presented gifts to Iraq in the form of medications to express the solidarity of the Netherlands and Danish peoples with the Iraqi people.

### Belgian Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 22 Nov

*JN2311144390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] The Belgian parliamentary delegation led by Senator Hans de Belder arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit of several days. The delegation was received by members of the National Assembly and the Belgian ambassador in Baghdad.

### Official Supports Initiative

*JN2311170990 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Senator Hans de Belder, head of the Belgian parliamentary delegation, has called for a resolution of all the Arab region's problems in accordance with leader President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative.

In a statement to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, he said that resolving all the region's problems should be simultaneous in light of the principles of international legitimacy and on the basis of UN resolutions on the Palestine question.

Senator Hans de Belder pointed out that the Arab nation can overcome its differences and resolve its problems within the framework of the Arab house away from foreign interference, especially since the Arabs have a cultural history that goes back thousands of years as all signs indicate in this country, which is one of the deep-rooted Arab countries.

He said that the use of force is to be rejected because it is an uncivilized practice and a sign that successful solutions that would achieve world peace and security are being dismissed..

The Belgian senator also said that the economic blockade against Iraq is an unjust decision, stressing that it is impossible to deny an entire people food, medicine, and milk for children.

### Official Praises Initiative

*JN2511143990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah has met with Hans de Belder, chairman of the Belgian foreign trade committee and member of the parliamentary society for Arab-European cooperation [title as received], and his delegation.

During the meeting, the minister reviewed developments in the region and the escalation of the situation by the United States and its allies—an escalation that could ignite a destructive war in the region and the world. He stressed that Iraqis and honorable Arabs with them are capable of confronting the enemies and foiling their aggressive and evil designs.

Hans de Belder praised President Saddam Husayn's 12 August peace initiative as a practical, comprehensive, and just solution to the central problems of the region within the framework of the Arab family and one that would spare the region and the world the disasters and dangers of a destructive war.

### Delegation Meets Speaker

*LD2411183190 Brussels Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] In Baghdad the Belgian parliamentary delegation is slowly continuing its mission, going from one official to the next. After Yasir 'Arafat, who is rather pessimistic on the outcome of the crisis, they met with the speaker of the Iraqi parliament. Here is a report from our special correspondent Willy Vanderworff:

[Vanderworff] The Belgian mission was received by the Assembly speaker for an hour. A member of the Revolution Command Council, and close to Saddam Husayn, he plays an important role in the release of the Westerners. If they are here, recalled Speaker Salih, it is to attract the attention of the media and the world to the bellicose intentions of Washington, which does not respect human rights. So he is asking the Europeans not to follow the Americans in collaborating for the return to peace in the region [as heard]—a word which is important here in the search for a solution to Israeli-Arab tensions. He has repeated his intention to release the hostages after Christmas. This is a point of view which is well known, and is that of Saddam Husayn, which many Westerners can share, said the Belgian mission's spokesman.

In his reply, Senator Hans de Belder laid heavy stress on the humanitarian character of the Belgian mission and the peaceful intentions which inspire it, representative as it is of 90 percent of the Belgian population.

During the exchange of views—said by the member of the European Parliament Elio di Rupo to be cordial and constructive—the Belgians submitted to the Iraqis a list of 12 nationals who wish to return home. We are at the beginning of a dialogue, concluded the Belgians, who are preparing to meet the parliamentary international commission this evening. The aim of these talks is to test the sincerity and coherence of the Belgians in this humanitarian action within a serious political context. Yesterday evening, after all, was devoted to drawing a

picture of the region with Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO chairman, who is very pessimistic regarding the way the crisis is developing.

### Confers With Ramadan

*JN2611204590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA)—Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has said that genuine and comprehensive peace can only come through dialogue and negotiation rather than slogans.

Speaking during a meeting with a Belgian parliamentary delegation led by Senator Hans de Belder, resident of the Belgian Foreign Trade Committee and member of the Parliamentary Arab-European Cooperation Committee, Ramadan said a just, full peace must be the outcome of a positive spirit free from preconditions.

Ramadan reviewed Iraq's peaceful, positive, and just stands seeking [word indistinct] international legitimacy and law that are invoked on all problems by the same standards, and not in the selective fashion applied by the United States and its Zionist allies.

The war threatened by Bush, he added, will only further aggravate matters. If Bush starts the war, Ramadan added, he will be powerless to halt it or limit is scope. He emphasized that the entire Arab people and free Muslims will fight the aggressive Americans and their Zionist allies, who are occupying Palestine and its sanctities.

Meanwhile, the head and members of the Belgian delegation declared their support for His Excellency President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative, describing it as objective, humanitarian, and just.

They noted that world public opinion has chosen peace over war.

They stressed that the UN Security Council must prove its just and legitimate credentials by pursuing all its resolutions on the Palestine issue and the withdrawal of the Zionist entity from the occupied Arab land.

### Italian Medicine, Vaccines Shipment Arrives

*JN2411201590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—An Italian Airbus cargo plane arrived in Baghdad today, carrying vaccines for children and other medicine.

In a statement to the INA correspondent, Italian Council of Ministers' representative Dr. Soydo Verto Lazu [name as received], who was accompanying the medicine shipment, said that it included 25 tonnes of medicine and vaccines sent by Italian pharmaceutical companies with the consent of the Italian Government.

The plane was received at the airport by officials of the Health Ministry, the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization, and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society.

### Ramadan Meets UK Official, Attacks Bush Policy

*JN2511163890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1522 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, has said that peace in the region will reinforce peace and stability throughout the world because the Middle East region is strongly linked with the rest of the world and that any war in this region will engulf vast areas not reaching beyond the illusions of the Bush administration and its calculations on paper.

During his meeting with Donald Feathers, chief justice in Britain [name and title as received], he added that Bush, who is touring countries trying to obtain support for his plan to start a war and commit aggression, has proved to the whole world to be an advocate of war rather than peace, because he has closed every door and rejected every initiative to hold dialogue and negotiations for a real and just peace in the region. This, he added, reveals Bush's disregard for human rights and his false democratic claims and slogans.

The British chief justice said the lies of the U.S. and British administrations were exposed when the U.S. Administration admitted that the aim of its occupation of the Arab lands in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] was to control the oil supplies under the pretext that oil was a component of U.S. national security.

Feathers added that the British people are against the policy of war and that European and American public opinion is demanding peace in demonstrations and gatherings that are increasing day after day. He also praised President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative, which shows Iraq's peaceful intentions and its serious desire to bring about a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region so as to achieve security and peace in the world.

### Finnish, Italian 'Peace' Delegations Arrive

*JN2511142190 Baghdad INA in English 1240 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 25, INA—A Finnish peace delegation led by former minister of trade and industry, arrived here last night on several days visit to Baghdad.

In a statement to INA, Mr. Ulf Sundqvist [name as received] rejected use of military threats and intervention for solving problems in the region. He stressed the necessity of resorting to dialogue and negotiations to ease tension in the region.

Meanwhile an Italian peace delegation has also arrived in Baghdad on several days visit to Iraq.

Chairman of the Italian delegation Otollo Serezi [name as received] told INA correspondent that his visit aimed at declaring the Italian people's solidarity with Iraq in standing up against the enemies of peace and humanity.

He expressed rejecting of the economic embargo imposed on Iraq and denounced the U.S.-foreign presence in the region.

### Finns Meet Official

*JN2511212690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—'Adnan Dawud Salman, head of the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization, today met with Mr. Ulf Sundqvist, former Finnish minister of trade and industry [name and title as received], and his delegation.

Salman said that Iraq has demonstrated its firm peace policy and its clear readiness for dialogue and negotiations, which are the shortest way to a lasting and comprehensive peace if all the region's problems are solved in accordance with international legitimacy and international law.

He explained that terrorism, threats, and the imposition of economic blockade on Iraq violate human rights and conflict with all the international laws and charters, behind which the U.S. Administration is hiding and on which it is capitalizing to achieve its goal of occupying Arab lands and controlling the oil supplies.

Ulf Sundqvist expressed his hope that stability and peace would prevail in the region on the basis of a comprehensive solution to all the region's problems, foremost of which is the Palestine question. He stressed that UN resolutions should be applied fairly without selectivity so that the United Nations can preserve its credibility in implementing international legitimacy.

### Greek Peace Delegation Meets With Ramadan

*JN2211123590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1637 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received today the Greek peace delegation under Kristos Marco Polo, minister of state for organizations affairs in the previous Greek government [name and title as received].

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that Iraq is working for a real and just peace based on human values and it rejects the policy of terrorism, injustice, and slavery. He pointed out that the U.S. Administration is practicing all forms of terrorism with its interception of Iraqi vessels and plundering of their cargoes.

Ramadan said that the United States actually violates human rights while claiming, for appearances sake, that it is concerned over human rights. It also practices the most developed forms of dictatorship and control over the world, plunders the world's resources, and stifles its will in the name of democracy—a slogan it raises to deceive cowards, the stupid, and the lowly. He added that the governments that have become involved in the U.S. policy will greatly harm the interests of their people and the future of their relations with the Arabs.

The Greek peace delegation said that the entire Greek people support Iraq, adding that President Saddam Husayn is the leader that has set the course for all people who love peace and freedom, and that he has become a symbol for all these people. The delegation also said that liberation movements support Iraq, which is defending its independence, freedom, and rights. Members of the delegation pointed out that, in the name of human rights, the U.S. Administration is depriving 18 million Iraqis of their right to food and medicine, and even milk from children. It leads international terrorism to attain its interests at the expense of the peoples in the world.

They added that Iraq's voice is being heard throughout the world and announced their readiness to establish a peace camp on the frontlines along with volunteers from all parts of the world to prevent war and its tragedies and to contribute to peace.

### Thanks Saddam for Release

*JN2511150690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1244 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—The Greek peace messengers delegation led by Kristos Marco Polo, former Greek minister of organizations [name and title as received], left Baghdad at noon today at the end a nine-day visit to Iraq.

Kristos Marco Polo expressed his deep thanks and those of his delegation to President Saddam Husayn for his generous initiative to allow a number of Iraq's Greek guests to leave, if they wish.

In a statement to INA, he said the delegation met with Iraqi officials to exchange views on the Arab region's problems, pointing out that both sides had identical views on the need to find peaceful solutions to all problems, including the Gulf events.

He added that the visit to Iraq by the Greek peace messengers' delegation has reinforced the deep-rooted relations between the Iraqi and Greek peoples.

Mrs. Lukyanu Sbina, chairman of the Greek-Iraqi Friendship Society [name and title as received], also praised highly President Saddam Husayn's initiative to allow a number of Greek nationals, guests of the Iraqi people, to leave Iraq. She expressed her thanks to Iraq—leadership and people—for the hospitality they accorded to the Greek peace delegation during its stay in Iraq.

## Ramadan Meets With Canadian Delegation

*JN2211110590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Nov 90*

[All Canadian names as received]

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, received a Canadian party delegation today comprising Lloyd Axorthy, official spokesman of the opposition Liberal Party; Sevend Robinson, critic of foreign policy in the New Democratic Party; and Robert Corbet, chairman of the parliamentary committee of the Arab Canadian Society and representative of the ruling party.

The first deputy prime minister said that what the world is seeing today is the implementation of American legitimacy, not international legitimacy. He said that America will not achieve its legitimacy based on injustice, subjugation, controlling people's potential, and looting their will and wealth.

He added that the world's liberation and peace movements are against this policy, which is aimed at imposing hegemony over the world and gaining mastery over it to achieve its interests only.

Ramadan added that Iraq will be honored to defend its sovereignty and will and to reject all forms of dependency and subjugation. He added that America—which occupied the lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] in cooperation with the betrayer of the two holy mosques and agent Husni to commit aggression against Iraq—will not dissuade the Iraqis from adhering to their rights and defending them, supported by all Arabs and Muslims, to defeat American tyranny regardless of the troops and fleets they mobilize.

He said that the Iraqis under the leadership of leader President Saddam Husayn refuse to become slaves, except to Almighty God.

The Canadian party delegation said that it is the responsibility of the peace- and liberation-loving organizations and movements to work to avert war. He noted that the general trend of world public opinion is to achieve peace and resist all kinds of threats of war because the use of force will further complicate problems.

The Canadian delegation noted the importance of world's concern about all issues in the region and applying international legitimacy in dealing with these issues so that rights will be restored to their owners and peace and security will prevail in this region. The delegation reaffirmed that world concern about the Palestine question has begun to increase and expand because it is the cause of a people whose land was occupied and who were deported from it by force.

## U.S., Canadian Churches Delegation Arrives 23 Nov

*JN2311174890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA)—An American and Canadian churches delegation led by Mr. Gene Istovis [name as received] arrived here today on a week-long visit to Iraq.

In a statement to the INA correspondent, the head of the delegation expressed his pleasure and that of the delegation accompanying him to be visiting Iraq. He said that the delegation, which includes a number of churches in the United States and Canada, has come to Iraq as a messenger of peace to express solidarity with the Iraqi people and deter aggression against them. He valued highly President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative for comprehensive solutions to all the region's problems and issues, stressing the need to reach a peaceful solution to the Gulf situation.

He added that the delegation has brought with it a consignment of medicine, which will be followed by other consignments that will also include milk for infants as a contribution to the Iraqi people's steadfastness in the face of the unjust economic blockade imposed against them, and to a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

## Meets With Official

*JN2511110990 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] 'Adnan Dawud Salman, head of the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization, yesterday evening received a delegation of U.S. peacemakers led by Mr. (Gene Istovis).

'Adnan Dawud Salman reviewed Iraq's positions and the peace initiatives it has launched to keep the specter of a war in the region and the world at bay despite the fact that the United States and its allies are carrying out provocative acts against it. He affirmed that Iraq believes in the language of dialogue and peace. However, Iraq, along with the Arab nation and the world peace-loving states, will firmly confront the attempts at conspiracy and aggression, because it is on the side of right and also because it is defending its national soil and historical rights, Salman added.

The U.S. delegation stressed the need for the language of dialogue and understanding to prevail rather than that of threats and force, as the latter language would drag the region and the world to a destructive war. The delegation affirmed the importance of resolving all regional problems, adding that no selective approach should be employed when dealing with UN resolutions. It renewed its rejection of the inhuman economic blockade imposed on the Iraqi people—the blockade which includes a ban on food and medicine imports.

'Adnan Dawud also received yesterday evening the Australian peace messengers' delegation led by former Australian Agriculture Minister (Alter James Bradley) [name and title as heard] and the delegation accompanying him.

During the meeting, 'Adnan Dawud Salman reviewed the dimensions of the Zionist-U.S. campaign against Iraq and the Arab nation, affirming that Iraq is capable of thwarting this campaign and confronting any hostile action against it.

Alter James Bradley expressed his deep appreciation for Iraq's peaceful stance and its sincere desire to achieve a comprehensive and durable solution to all regional problems within the framework of His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative.

### U.S. Delegation Lauds Efforts

*JN2711121690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0738 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA)—The American peacemaker delegation led by Mr. Gene Istovis [name as received] expressed pride in and appreciation for Iraq's efforts to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace and avert the region and the world the perils of a devastating war.

This came when the delegation presented a symbolic gift of a deep cultural and humanitarian significance to the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization. The gift represents ears of corn arranged together in a way that symbolizes loftiness, growth, and benevolence.

### Ramadan Tells Arabs 2 Aug Inaugurated New Era

*JN2311145390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1616 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and first deputy prime minister, today received the delegation of Arab expatriates in Australia led by Shaykh Khalid Zaydan, imam and preacher at Saddam Husayn mosque in Sydney.

The RCC member said that 2 August 1990 inaugurated a new era for the Arabs that will end all pages of defeatism, capitulation, and slavery, and topple all slogans of falsehood and lies behind which the coward dwarf rulers such as agent Husni and traitor Fahd were hiding. He stated that Iraq wants to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, not the peace sought by the U.S. Administration and its allies.

The chairman of the delegation of Arab expatriates in Australia conveyed the greetings of the Arab community in Australia to President Saddam Husayn and their solidarity with his leadership which restored to the Arabs their dignity and pride in Arabism. He declared that the people of the world reject the policy of war led by America, and are doubling their activities on behalf of peace and stability.

### Assembly Speaker Receives 'Peace Messengers'

*JN2511213090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1846 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih met today with the delegations of peace messengers visiting Iraq.

The National Assembly speaker expressed appreciation for the high humanitarian spirits these delegations enjoy, and their persistent efforts to deter the threat of war and to avert its specter in the Middle East and the whole world. He stressed that peace is a strong principle in the Iraqi people's conscience, pointing to President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative, which laid the basis for a solution to all the region's problems in a comprehensive and integrated manner and on the basis of the same principles.

### Peace Delegations Call for Arab Solution

*JN2411211090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—The peace messenger delegations have denounced the presence of American and NATO forces in the Arabian Gulf as a threat to world security and peace.

In statements to representatives of foreign radio stations and television networks, the delegations said that developments in the Arabian Gulf should be discussed by the Arabs themselves without foreign interference or tutelage and without fleets and armies.

The peace messenger delegations from Britain, Australia, Canada, India, Spain, Sweden, Greece, and the United States have agreed that the Zionist and imperialist conspiracies being concocted against Iraq and the Arab nation are designed to strike at the awakening and progress of Iraq, which has always tried to bring about a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The delegations then expressed profound appreciation for President Saddam Husayn's initiative to allow the foreign nationals to travel in groups beginning on 25 November. They also said that Iraq is seeking peace and denounced the economic blockade imposed on Iraq.

### UN Geneva Envoy Meets Iranian Counterpart

*JN2611152790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1442 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA)—Barzan Ibrahim al-Takriti, Iraq's permanent representative at the Geneva UN headquarters, met today with his Iranian counterpart, Sirus Naseri, who is a member of the official Iranian delegation visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, they discussed reinforcing the peace process between the two neighboring countries in a

manner that would strengthen bilateral relations for the benefit of the two neighboring Muslim countries and peoples.

The meeting comes within consultations and talks between the two sides in implementation of the two countries leaders' agreement concerning the strengthening and bolstering of bilateral relations on the basis of the principles of good neighborliness and joint interests.

### Peace Camp Rejects War, Calls for Dialogue

*JN2511104690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, today received the Gulf peace camp delegation led by John Steele [name as received] from Britain.

The first deputy prime minister said that efforts to achieve stability and peace are a noble responsibility and a humanitarian duty. He added that Iraq's serious trend toward peace has become clear to the world because the Iraqi leadership believes in the importance of peace.

Ramadan added that the policy of escalating the war tone and the concentration of armies and fleets by Bush are evidence that the U.S. Administration neither believes in peace nor respects human rights.

The members of the Gulf peace camp delegation affirmed that peoples reject war and that the delegation is ready to be a shield for peace and to move the camp to the front lines. They also affirmed that the delegation has received hundreds of letters from citizens from various countries expressing their desire to participate in the camp in order to prevent the disaster of war. The members of the delegation renewed their appreciation for President Saddam Husayn and his excellency's 2 August initiative and also stressed the need to solve problems through dialogue, negotiations, and serious peaceful means. The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Sulayman, head of the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization in Iraq.

### Paper Comments on Bush's Cairo News Conference

*JN2511141890 Baghdad INA in English 1200 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 25, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad said that during the joint press conference between Bush and Husni in Cairo, Bush referred that patience of the world became exhausted as concerns the Gulf crisis, in an overt bid to blackout his personal frustration versus Iraq's principled attitude rejecting submission to the imperialist and Zionist will.

A paper article for today said, it was not the first time, in which Bush admitted by running out of his patience in the Gulf crisis, but he had previously confessed overtly in the course of making a sign of resorting to the military option to resolve the crisis. [sentence as received]

The paper added that Bush had accurately expressed his frustration because all bids to yield Iraq were in vain. [sentence as received]

The paper affirmed that if the imperialist and Zionist circles were capable of assembling the most precise political, economic and military information on world states, through planting spies in political-making positions, but they failed in collecting any strategic information on Iraq, but those declared by the Iraqi official media.

It added that this way had made the enemies acting aimlessly [as received] in their estimates and predictions on Iraq's true military and strategic capabilities.

The paper further said that Bush knew well that Iraq under leadership of President Saddam Husayn would never submit to pressures or threats.

### More Comments on Shamir Statements Reported

#### Paper Attacks Bush Reaction

*JN2611120790 Baghdad INA in English 1125 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 26, INA—AL-JUMHURIYAH daily of Baghdad today strongly lashed out at the American president's refrain from commenting on Shamir recent statements that his entity's borders extend from the Mediterranean to the River Jordan under the pretext of not being informed about them.

A daily article said here today that the American president silence over Shamir statements indicate the strong sympathy and bias of the American policy toward the Zionist entity and its aggressive projects and that this attitude constitutes a strong slap to the treasonous Arab regimes which had whole heartedly supported the U.S. policies.

The Iraqi paper stressed that Bush disrespect of the Arab nation reached an extent of forgetting his repeated statements on human rights and international legitimacy. He refused even to comment on Shamir statements that greatly harm the Palestinian human rights and the U.N. resolutions on the Palestine issue.

The paper further said that such attitudes by the United States proved that America works for achieving its own interests and those of its ally, the Zionist entity which occupies a prominent position in the American policy.

#### Vice President Reacts

*JN2211153490 Baghdad INA in English 1250 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 22, INA—Member of the Revolution Command Council and Vice President Mr. Taha Muhyi-al-Din Ma'ruf described latest statements released by the Zionist entity Prime Minister Shamir as

were disclosing blatantly the Zionist expansionist hostile intentions in the Arab land and at the expense of the Arab people.

In a statement to INA, Mr. Ma'ruf has further said that Shamir's statements represent a barefaced challenge to the U.N. resolutions with regard to the Palestinian issue and flagrant violation of its charter and open disclosure of the expansionist policy which Zionism endeavours to achieve through establishment of 'Big Israel'.

The vice president has further emphasised that these statements are another evidence that this entity will remain a seminary of danger threatening stability and security in this sensitive part of the world and that the Palestinian issue remaining without a radical solution constitutes an essential factor in appearance of other crises in the area.

The vice president has stressed that President Saddam Husayn's historic initiative of August 12 represents a practical and realistic diagnosis for the resolution of all problems of the region.

He has further affirmed that Iraq which is now being exposed to a brutal imperialist attack owing to his clear-cut principles and policy, supporting the Palestinian people, will remain loyal to principles of its great revolution and the Palestinian people established rights whatever sacrifices were, and failure will be the destiny of the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy.

### National Front Holds Discussion

*JN2211163490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Nov 90*

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Patriotic, Progressive, and National Front [PPNF] held a meeting today chaired by its secretary general, comrade Hasan 'Ali, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command.

The PPNF General Secretariat discussed the political situation and developments in the Arab and international arenas, the evil objectives and intentions of the fascist Zionist enemy whose dimensions were revealed by its prime minister, terrorist Yitzhaq Shamir, and the nature and requirements of the present stage.

Comrade Hasan 'Ali stated that the scandalous and aggressive statements made by the racist Zionist prime minister and his claims that the border of his usurper entity extends from the sea to the river have exposed the reality of the aggressive Zionist objectives represented in the attempt to occupy more Arab lands and to realize the miserable Zionist dream to establish the so-called greater Israel under the cover of imperialist support.

'Ali noted that Shamir's terrorist statements place the Arab nation and the entire world before a historical, legal, and militant responsibility to confront the Zionist evils and the imperialist invasion of the lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] led by the U.S. Administration, which is mobilizing its fleets in Arabian Gulf waters. This represents a military and political umbrella to protect the evil objectives of the Zionist enemy, and a continuation of the policy of aggression and terrorism against the Arabs.

Comrade Hasan 'Ali declared that our great Iraqi people—who carry the banner of national struggle and who are the vanguard of the march of Arab awakening supported by the most splendid national unity around their great leader and symbol of their dignity and pride, President Saddam Husayn—can confront all malicious and evil ones, turn the decisive battle into a catastrophe crashing around the heads of the criminals, and achieve victory, pride, and glory for the Arab nation and its shining future.

### Arab Pleasure at Thatcher's 'Downfall' Noted

*JN2611172390 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 23 Nov 90 p 4*

[Column signed AL-THAWRAH: "Thatcher's Downfall]

[Text] In a surprising, dramatic development, the "Iron Lady" has fallen, the legend of the only man in the British Government has been blown away, and the clumsy old woman has announced that she will resign from the Cabinet once a new leader of the Conservative Party is elected.

What is stranger still is that Thatcher has admitted that the party would be better off after her resignation.

Of course, we are aware that Thatcher's domestic and European policy is responsible for her fate, and that she has turned Britain (which was an empire on whose possessions the sun never set) into a U.S. colony. We also know that she has tried painstakingly to use the so-called Gulf crisis—in fact, she wagered on it—to remain in power and retain her seat at 10 Downing Street, but in vain.

Since August 2, Thatcher has been afflicted with an aggression mania that no other official in the world has acquired except for Bush and the Zionists in Tel Aviv. Moreover, the war hysteria has haunted her, leaving her deranged and unbalanced. Thus, Thatcher began to rave about issues that are foreign to her, make evil shouts, and egg Bush on to ignite the fuel of war, despite the fact that the size of British forces she dispatched to the Gulf is too tiny and incommensurate with her shouts and mania.

Thatcher's position on the situation in the Gulf was truly conspicuous. Some say she was wagering on the illusion of winning a new (victory) in the Gulf similar to her victory in the Falklands, to help her win power for a fourth time. However, Thatcher failed to realize that the Falklands are one thing and Iraq is another. Perhaps she forgot what the Iraqis did to her predecessors, despite the fact that the spear and catapult were their basic weapons at the time.

If the leader of the British Labor Party says that millions of Britons looked forward to Thatcher's resignation, what is established beyond doubt is that tens of millions of Arabs, faithful, and large-hearted people are pleased with Thatcher's resignation and happy over her downfall—after a long period of barking, after her ravings and foolishness became obvious, and after her criminal, aggressive, and sinister motives were revealed.

Thatcher has gone. Iraq—whose history she did not know, or probably ignored, and for which she harbored a great deal of malice—remains secure and dignified. No doubt, Thatcher's destiny is the same of all enemies of justice, peace, and goodness in the world.

Thus, the iron has rusted, and we remain the same. Of course, this is true, if Thatcher is of iron, as they say.

### Press Warns Gulf Coalition Against Attack

*JN2511095790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0732 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—Iraqi newspapers today warn the countries which massed troops in the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula against the severe abortive strike which Iraq will deal to the forces of aggression if they attempt to attack its lands and people or to threaten its national sovereignty.

In their editorials, Iraqi newspapers today affirm that the Iraqis' right to correct the mistakes which the colonial powers created and attempted to perpetuate in our Arab homeland will be their prime motive for confrontation and for defending their options, their legitimate rights, and their sacred territorial integrity.

The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH, organ of the Ministry of Defense, draws the attention of the whole world to the fact that the springboards for an aggression targeting Iraq will all and without exception be a theater of operations if the U.S. Administration and its allies insist on the military option.

AL-QADISIYAH adds: We have mobilized part of our Armed Forces in the theater of operations to prevent those lying in wait for us from being tempted into aggression. It warns the parties which are insisting on war and aggression against Iraq saying: "We will surprise the Bush-led enemy camp with incomprehensible things through utilizing the capabilities and accomplishments of the heroes of the military industries in any forthcoming battle."

The paper cautions the U.S. president against the big losses which his army as well as his country's regional policy will sustain and says that all U.S. interests will be within the range of the weapons of the faithful combatants.

The AL-THAWRAH newspaper warns the international community and world leaders against the abyss of armed conflict into whose grinding machine in the Arabian Gulf Bush persistently seeks to drag the world.

The paper adds: The U.S. Administration has adequately shown that it has gone to extremes in its arrogance, and that it is working recklessly and irresponsibly to block all roads and paths leading to a political settlement.

The paper elaborates on a host of statements made by Bush and other U.S. officials over the past few days and says that these statements unmistakably show that the U.S. Administration is throwing all its weight as well as its political, military, and economic leverage to rally the optimal international support for the passage of a UN Security Council resolution supporting the option of armed aggression.

The newspaper AL-'IRAQ sheds light on the broad outlines of Bush's policy and on his handling of the so-called Gulf crisis saying: This policy is marked by a persistent endeavor to promote purely U.S. interests, to control oil wells, and to mobilize the other resources in the region.

The paper affirms that Bush's prime and dangerous objective behind all this is to impose the U.S. hegemony on the resources, policies, and interests of all industrialized European states, through controlling oil and raw material exports.

### Paper Reiterates Call for Peace, Dialogue

*JN2711131090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0710 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH has stressed that while hearing the beating of war drums getting louder by Bush and his henchmen, Iraq will not accept to kneel down or to have its historical and geographical rights and those of the Arab nation undermined.

In an editorial today, the paper says: When Iraq reminds once again of its unlimited military power and capabilities, which many sides can imagine a small part of through the eight-year war, it is not making threats or pushing for war, but warns and cautions in order to avert the region and mankind the catastrophes of such a devastating war, as the leader president has reiterated on more than an occasion, and also to eliminate any doubts or elusions that some sides might have regarding the size and might of Iraq's military capabilities.

The paper refers to Iraq's desire for peace through its military defiance of the forces of aggression, which is also coupled with its endurance of the unjust resolution that was adopted by America, denying food and medicine to the Iraqi people in order to starve them. This is despite the fact that this unjust blockade resolution, which was passed under cover of the United Nations, does not stipulate this, nor does it include anything to this effect. On the contrary, all responsible parties and circles have announced that the economic blockade resolution does not include food and medicine. However, the United States dealt unilaterally with this brutal

and immoral action within the framework of its aggressive policy against Iraq and the Arab nation.

The paper stresses that the unprecedented brutal American decision to starve the Iraqi people and even to deny their children milk not only conflicts with international laws and norms and the UN Security Council resolutions against Iraq, including those unjust resolutions, but is tantamount to a declaration of a real war by America against Iraq. This means that Iraq can reply to this aggression in the right place and at the right time. However, despite all the pains this disgraceful action has caused to the Iraqi people, particularly to their children, our leadership preferred to be patient in order to give a greater chance for peace, and accepted that the Iraqi people endure the harm caused by the food blockade so as to spare the copious bloodshed of this war. This shows a great sense of humanitarian and international responsibility.

It adds: While hearing the beating of the drums of war getting louder by Bush and his henchmen, Iraq will not tire of calling for peace and resort to dialogue and negotiations to resolve all the region's problems. However, it will never accept to kneel down or have its historical and geographical rights and those of the Arab nation undermined. Moreover, under no circumstances will it accept the continuation of the occupation of the Islamic sanctities whether in Najd and Hejaz or in holy Jerusalem.

Concluding, the paper says: Our confrontation capabilities are unlimited, and we see victory in the eyes of our experienced heroes. In return, we want a just and comprehensive peace and call for dialogue and negotiations. This is not a tactical move, maneuvering, or an attempt to gain time as some slanderers claim. We mean it and adopt it out of firm principles and determination. Any party that is concerned about achieving peace in the region should realize this and deal with events fairly instead of being driven behind the aggressive U.S. policy. They should not be deluded that Iraq would submit to any pressure or force, because this is not among the characteristics of the brave and faithful people, especially since we are one of them, and even at their forefront.

### Kuwait Popular Army Command Formed

*JN2411122890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Today, the Iraqi authorities announced the formation of a command for the Popular Army in Kuwait. This command will be headed by Kuwait's Governor 'Aziz Salah al-Numan, who was appointed by Iraq to this post on 14 November.

### Saddam Replies to U.S. Child's Letter of Peace

*JN1911060590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 18 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 18 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has sent a reply letter to the American child Ricky Robert Phillips. The letter reads:

I read your well-composed letter which reflects deep human feelings. It is our destiny and the destiny of humanity to achieve security, stability, and peace for all world children.

You are a hero, Ricky. The hero is not only the man who can use arms when necessary to defend right, as good fighters do, but also the one that openly supports right against wrong. You just did this, and thus became an example of America's children through your firm humanitarian position.

In my name and on behalf of Iraq's leadership and people, I thank you, Mr. Phillips, for your gift and words about me and the people of Iraq. In particular, I express to you the high appreciation of your brothers in God and humanity, the children of Iraq, who have been deprived by Bush of milk, candies, and medicine, and even of bread.

Your words, Ricky, have touched me and the Iraqi people, so much so that they added yet further burden to our sense of responsibility toward peace. And, with God's help, we will not remove this burden from our shoulders until the peoples of the region and the world enjoy the peace desired by God through His prophets, including our Lord Jesus Christ, God bless him.

I promise you in the name of the Iraqi people that while we step up our readiness to confront a foolish act that may be perpetrated by Bush through an aggression against the Iraqi people, we will continue to look in the direction of peace; peace will continue to be within our sight, and [word indistinct] our views and conscience. God Almighty always helps those who avoid evil acts and pursue the path of virtue. I thank you once again and hope you will accept my permanent friendship.

You will find enclosed a symbolic friendship gift and a videocassette on our visits to the children of Iraq. I hope they will reach you while you are in the best of health. [passage omitted]

### Ports Holding Goods Destined for Nation Listed

*JN2611170090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1503 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA)—Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih has disclosed the amounts and other details of the foodstuffs being held at ports of the world, foodstuffs that Iraq had signed contracts to import before the unjust blockade was imposed on the Iraqi people.

In a statement to INA, the minister said that these foodstuffs are now being held at the ports of Mersin in Turkey, Varna in Bulgaria, Port Said, Hamburg, Gdynia in Poland, Aden, Singapore, Dubayy, Khawr Fakkan, al-Shariqah, al-Hudaydah, Tripoli in Libya, Djibouti, Barkas [as received], and at Soviet ports. This is in addition to a number of ships held on the high seas.

He said that the goods being held include 2,312 tonnes of children's and canned milk, of which 1,825 tonnes are at the Turkish port of Mersin, 281 tonnes at the Bulgarian port of Varna, and 536 tonnes in Port Said. He said that 147 tonnes of the milk held in the Egyptian port were sold to the Husni regime.

There are 141 tonnes of milk held at Hamburg, 274 tonnes at the Polish port of Gdynia, and 255 tonnes at Singapore, the minister said.

Concerning other foodstuffs held at those ports, the trade minister said they include hundreds of thousands tonnes of frozen meat, canned meat, sugar, tea, coffee, rice, and wheat.

The minister gave more details, saying that three thousand and [figure indistinct] tonnes of frozen meat, 180 tonnes of coffee, and 173.005 tonnes of tea are being held at the Turkish port of Mersin.

At Aden, the Iraqi ship Zanubia is at anchor with a cargo of 1,003 tonnes of tea. At Singapore, 140 containers, each with 20 cubic feet of tea are held. At Dubayy, 184 containers of tea and 40 tonnes of ammonium bicarbonate are also being held.

At Khawr Fakkan in the Emirate of Dubai, there are 81 containers of Indonesian tea. Soviet ports are holding 124,182 tonnes of Vietnamese tea, while al-Shariqah port is holding 199.980 tonnes of green coffee.

At Djibouti, 120,000 tonnes [of goods] are being held. They include 50,000 boxes of canned coffee and 610 tonnes of canned meat. Barkas is holding 4,707,029 tonnes of beef.

Concerning the amount of sugar impounded, the trade minister said there are 13,125 tonnes in the Libyan Port of Tripoli, in addition to 11,100 tonnes in the Yemeni Port of al-Hudaydah.

As for ships on the high seas, Muhammad Mahdi Salih said that they are carrying 14,000 tonnes of sugar, and 49 containers of Kenyan tea.

Elaborating on the amounts of wheat and rice that Iraq had ordered in contracts signed prior to the enforcement of the unjust embargo, he said that there are 417,000 tonnes covered under a long-term contract signed with the Australian Wheat Council, and that Australia has violated the agreement in violation of the clauses of the above contract.

He added that the Australian Government diverted a ship loaded with approximately 60,000 tonnes of wheat, which was on its way to Iraq, to the Husni regime.

He added that the Canadian Wheat Council also violated the contracts covered under a long-term agreement and refused to deliver about 110 tonnes of wheat to Iraq. The Canadian Wheat Council also diverted a ship bound for Iraq with 60,000 tonnes of wheat on board, to the Husni regime.

The Trade Ministry issued an official statement earlier concerning the Australian and Canadian measures.

Muhammad Mahdi Salih said 165,000 tonnes of European wheat have not yet been shipped to Iraq, although their contracts were signed last June.

As for the United States, he said, it has not delivered a 30,000-tonne rice shipment that was contracted for prior to the unjust embargo on Iraq, while the Trade Ministry could not ship 90,000 tonnes of Thai rice and 20,000 tonnes of Australian rice for which contracts were signed with Thailand and Australia prior to the embargo enforcement.

The trade minister concluded his statement to INA by pointing out that these facts have been explained in messages he recently addressed to the UN secretary general, the president and members of the Security Council, the president of the Nonaligned Movement, and the chiefs of human rights organizations, the Red Cross and Crescent, WHO, and UNICEF.

### Trade Minister Says Blockade Harms Other Countries

*JN2411170690 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 21 Nov 90 p 1, 8*

[Text] Baghdad—INA—Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih has made the following statement to INA:

In contrast to the American people's love of work and creativity, successive American leaders who handle domestic and foreign policy have always been hostage to blatantly monopolistic and exploitative interests, which acquire profit and accumulate capital at the expense of the native population of the United States and at the expense of the poor of the world.

The salient facts show that progress in technology and civilization in the United States would not have been realized without exhausting the American people's hard work and resources, as well as the resources and wealth of the people of all continents.

Pentagon officials have flagrantly plotted and interfered in the affairs of the peoples of the world. This has entrenched in the minds and conscience of successive U.S. administrations a bent for dictatorial oppression, aggression, and war, sugarcoated with slogans about defending freedom, democracy, and legitimacy. Such an aggressive nature demonstrates a glaring contradiction

between words and deeds, and produces a limited horizon in international dealings.

Soon after having its unjust decision passed by the UN Security Council demanding an economic blockade against our struggling country under the pretext of defending international legitimacy, the criminal Bush administration found itself in a despicable position when the rest of the world, including the partners of the U.S. Administration in the Security Council, demanded the condemnation of the criminal massacre that the Zionist occupation forces perpetrated against the Palestinian people at the al-Haram al-Sharif in Jerusalem.

The chain of events in the Gulf and the world has forced the Bush administration to reveal its aggressive policies and the suffocating crisis it is undergoing. After using the pretext of defending international legitimacy, it began to speak frankly, stressing that the Gulf developments threatened U.S. national security. Is there anything clearer than this? It indicates that the Bush administration considers only its imperialist interests first and foremost in any action or plan it undertakes.

The unjust economic blockade against free, developing, and peaceful Iraq has in practice proved to be detrimental to international trade, imports, exports, and transportation, and to the interests of producers and businessmen. It has hobbled economic and scientific cooperation and trade in one of the most important regions of the world, rich in natural resources and potential and well located geographically for transportation and international shipping.

The extent of the economic damage to the interests of various world countries caused by the decision to boycott Iraq and impose an economic siege has become well known to world opinion and among international companies, producers, and exporters in many countries, including the United States. The honeyed promises of the Bush administration to offer compensation to the countries that have adhered to the unjust U.S. resolution will be useless. Apart from the fact that these countries have not received any concrete aid, their submission to American pressure has caused the gravest losses to their economic interests and national sovereignty at a time when the Bush administration has launched an international financial blackmail campaign to fund its military deployment in the holy lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia].

The course of events has made it incumbent upon many politicians, governments, and men of peace and intellect in the world to take precautions against the dangers of the real current in U.S. policy and against the way it has escalated the risk of a destructive war and a criminal military aggression against our people and Islamic and Arab nation.

The loyalty of the world's peace-loving nations to their humanitarian responsibility and legitimate aspirations to establish a new economic world order based on equality, mutual benefit, and respect for independent administration requires that they immediately take the initiative to stop contributing toward the crime of starving a whole nation and depriving its children, elderly, and women of milk, food, and medication. They must also confirm their goodwill and condemn the policy of war and aggression. Anything else will not be forgiven by history should they take part in allowing the crime of aggression and war to pass as planned by the criminal Bush administration.

### UN Adopts Saddam Interview as Official Document

*JN2611184690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1828 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA)—The UN Security Council has adopted President Saddam Husayn's [15 November] interview with the U.S. television network, ABC, as an official document of the Council.

The INA reporter in New York has reported that the Iraqi permanent delegation at the United Nations distributed President Saddam Husayn's interview to the member states and asked UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to consider the interview an official document of the UN Security Council.

### Saddam, Officials Assess Latest Developments

*JN2411165890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1643 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has met with 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and deputy prime minister and chairman of the Economic Committee; and Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information.

Latest developments and political positions were discussed and appropriate measures were taken.

### Scrap Paper Recycled for Books, Typing Paper

*JN2411132590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0952 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Nov (INA)—The State Enterprise for Paper Industry has succeeded in removing the ink from the scrap paper of various kinds of books, magazines, and newspapers and in turning them into a white paste to be used in manufacturing the paper used to produce school notebooks, and writing and typing paper. In a statement to AL-JUMHURIYAH published today, State Enterprise Director General Dr. Ghalib Muhammad Husayn said the success of the State Enterprise in this experiment will significantly help in making this item continuously available and will save an estimated $5 million in hard currency annually, that is, $30,000 per day.

Dr. Husayn noted that the State Enterprise imported the paste used in the paper industry at a cost of more than $5 million in hard currency annually.

### Assembly Approves Industrial Bank, Penal Code Laws

*JN1811204390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Nov 90*

[Text] The National Assembly held a session today under the chairmanship of Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih. After thorough discussion, the representatives of the people approved the industrial banks's new draft law, which will replace Industrial Bank Law No. 63 of 1961.

The representatives of the people also endorsed the principal agreement concluded between the Government of the Iraqi Republic and the Arab Organization for Investment and Agricultural Development. The Assembly then approved the draft of the 12th amendment of Penal Code Procedures Law No. 23 of 1971.

### Saddam Receives Cable From German President

*JN1711181190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1543 GMT 17 Nov 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Nov (INA)—His Excellency President Saddam Husayn has received a cable of thanks from FRG President Richard von Weizsacker in reply to a congratulatory cable sent by his excellency the president on German unification.

The cable reads as follows: On behalf of my people, I would like to thank you for the good wishes you expressed on the occasion of German unification. It was pleasant for me to receive from you these sentiments of solidarity with the German people.

### Military Attache in Ankara Returns to Baghdad

*NC1611203290 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 15 Nov 90*

[Text] The military attache of the Iraqi Embassy in Ankara has returned to Baghdad. It has been reported that the military attache's departure took place after revelations by a Turkish citizen accused of spying for Iraq. Meanwhile, a Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman informed journalists last night that the Iraqi military attache was returning home because his term of service in Turkey has ended.

It is common knowldege that a Turkish citizen who was arrested for spying for Iraq last month admitted to the State Security Court last Tuesday that he gathered information for Iraq's military attache.

### Agricultural Effort To Beat Blockade Praised

*JN2611220090 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], has said that the Iraqis' steadfastness and preparedness for creative spiritual sacrifice, under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, clearly reveal the depth and strength of the limitless capabilities of our unyielding people all over the great homeland from Zakho to the farthest point on the coast.

'Izzat Ibrahim made the remarks when he chaired an expanded meeting of party cadres, agricultural committees, and the heads of services and production departments in the first governorate, Ninawa, today.

The RCC vice chairman said that the agricultural campaign for this year, which is a special one, represents an important element in enhancing the basic power of our steadfastness with which we defend all our national, pan-Arab, and human principles and beliefs. He added that it is the duty of every Iraqi citizen at this stage to protect national and pan-Arab glory and the historical horizons that will open with the manifest victory that is our ally in the primary battle, God willing, through invoking all the principles and values for which our great forefathers fought.

'Izzat Ibrahim added that the recovery of the precious part that was severed by British colonialism from great Iraq has dealt a mortal blow to imperialism and colonialism and Zionism by destroying the dens of evil and conspiracy against Iraq and the nation and sweeping away all the miserable, aggressive intentions whose major goal was to prevent Iraq from assuming a civilized status—the status it deserves through its glorious history dating back thousands of years and its contribution to humanity, not only for the happiness of Iraqis and Arabs, but also for the sake of mankind.

The RCC vice chairman praised the distinguished efforts by the sons of the first governorate, Ninawa, to make the great agricultural campaign successful in order to provide food for the faithful, steadfast Iraqi people, who represent the revolutionary vanguard of the sons of the Arab nation, to defend its dignity and honor.

During the meeting, there was a thorough discussion of the economic situation in Ninawa. 'Izzat Ibrahim, the RCC vice chairman, issued directives on the requirements needed to make the agricultural campaign successful to thwart the economic blockade enforced by the United States and its allies against Iraq.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants renewed the pledge to President Saddam Husayn in the name of the sons of the governorate to be loyal soldiers and to place themselves at his excellency's disposal to serve victorious Iraq in all fields to confront and defeat the enemies of Iraq.

The meeting was attended by comrade Hasan 'Ali, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and secretary of the Party's northern office; 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud, minister of agriculture and irrigation; Khalid Muhammad al-Badr, head of the General Union of Farmers' Cooperative Societies; the governor of Ninawa; and the secretaries of the Ninawa and Mosul Party's branches.

## Sowing Campaign To Confront 'Unjust Blockade'

*JN1311210490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 13 Nov 90*

[Text] The newspaper AL-THAWRAH today published an article entitled "Agriculture and Fighting in the Forward Trench" which says: Ever since the United States and its allies imposed a comprehensive economic blockade against Iraq under the cover of the infamous Security Council resolution, our intelligent leadership has been eager to draft and lay down effective plans, practical programs, and improvised methods to promote and activate agriculture with a view to achieving a qualitative leap in this vital sector and rendering it more able to face the unjust blockade and the subsequent shortage of basic foodstuffs that had previously been imported.

In this context, the leadership, at the initiative of leader President Saddam Husayn, has made a series of systematic, practical decisions and precisely formulated the trends and principles that should govern the national campaign to promote agriculture and invest all available agricultural land and water resources to meet Iraq's various consumption needs—vegetables and raw materials used in food industries. One of the important and effective decisions made by the leadership was the high and encouraging increase in the price of agricultural products bought from farmers and peasants by the state. The aim is to give an incentive to the production forces and unleash their creative powers in a manner that creates a balance between the national duty of the producers and the financial rewards they should receive for their work and distinctive production activity.

The state's central and regional authorities have also provided agricultural producers with all the necessary basic services to facilitate the implementation of the national plantation campaign, such as seeds, fertilizers, agricultural tools and machines, easy marketing, field guidance and other services. The leadership's decision to exempt farmers and peasants from the military service at these circumstances underlines the great and extraordinary importance of the promotion of agriculture within the national campaign program. It is a special case that, in essence and values, is tantamount to fighting. It is as though the fighter and the farmer were in one trench against the U.S-Atlantic-Zionist aggression.

Because leader Saddam Husayn is the initiator, planner, and director of this campaign, and because it is directly linked to our heroic confrontation of the aggression and its tools and its just and tyrannic measures, his excellency followed up with exceptional interest the information that some dealers were reluctant to market grains through the state—a negative phenomenon out of line with the basic trends of the national agricultural campaign and with the leadership's eagerness to secure basic material for citizens and improve the system of (?supply)

At the meeting held by leader Saddam Husayn to discuss economic issues, a number of integrated decisions were made to ensure the program proceeds as planned. These included a decision to increase the price of rice this season retroactively so that those who had already sold their crops could benefit. Other decisions were to confine the marketing of all grains to the state, to be more strict in penalizing monopolists and those who fail to market their products, and to set up a committee under the leadership's supervision to consider putting in place an accurate and firm mechanism to secure the marketing of grains exclusively through the state.

The leader's initiative and his accurate follow up helped make an early diagnosis of the problem and provide the necessary treatment at the right time, because there is a need to remove the negative aspects in the national planting plan and to block anyone trying by any means to monopolize and tamper with the people's food. Such deviations are certainly at odds with the national responsibility and the national conscience of every Iraqi seeking the good and victory for its people, country, and nation.

Those who monopolize and tamper with the people's food and cause harm to citizens at this stage, when the great people of Iraq are in their maximum state of readiness to wage a major battle, must be viewed as committing a premeditated double crime. Consequently, they deserve the severest punishment. Firmness in handling negative practices and speed in dealing with any defect is the sound and correct way to mobilize all good and productive efforts to render the national agricultural campaign a success and break the brutal economic blockade imposed on our people by the forces of aggression massed in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula.

Every farmer and peasant must behave as a fighter in the front's forward trench, with an open mind and steady national conscience, so that the Iraqi people can show their genuine nature and, through their general behavior, embody the image of steadfastness and victory of great Iraq and the glorious Arab nation.

### Further on Shamir Remarks to French Group

*LD2611204990 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] A few significant words in Jerusalem today from Yitzhaq Shamir. The Israeli prime minister was receiving a delegation from the representative council of French Jewish institutions. He took advantage of the occasion to talk about the Gulf crisis and bring up the role played in it by Saddam Husayn. Listen closely as Yitzhaq Shamir spoke in French and his words against the Iraqi dictator are very harsh and very heavy with threats.

[Begin Shamir recording] Of course, Saddam Husayn, will not succeed. He has almost the whole world against him. A coalition [words indistinct]. We are not in that coalition. We are observers. But when the time comes—I do not know when—(?we will have to see) and we will have to do what is necessary against this dictatorship, against [words indistinct]. Draw your own conclusions. [end recording]

We will have to do what is necessary against this dictatorship. The message, recorded by our permanent special reporter Pierre Weil, is clear. Military intervention is now more than probable.

### Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark Visits

#### Meets Levi; Sees No Gulf Linkage

*TA2611150390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] This afternoon Foreign Minister David Levi met with his Canadian counterpart, Joe Clark, who is here on a visit. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that Minister Levi said this was an excellent talk between friends who oppose aggression.

Secretary Clark told reporters that, in order to prepare for the debate at the Security Council in three days, he and his Israeli counterpart discussed the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. He noted that, in his opinion, there is no direct link between the Gulf crisis and the solution of the Palestinian problem.

Tonight, the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs will meet with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. The guest is also due to meet with Palestinian notables from the territories.

#### Meets With Shamir; Levi on Policy

*TA2611163790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] Israel will not cause any surprises, but it will also not be surprised in the Gulf crisis, Foreign Minister David Levi told the Canadian foreign minister today. Minister Joe Clark praised Israel's cautious policy over the Gulf conflict. Our political correspondent Natan Gutman reports:

Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark is currently conferring with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at the Knesset. In an earlier meeting with Foreign Minister Levi, the visiting minister praised Israel's cautious policy over the Gulf crisis. Clark again promised that Canada would oppose any attempt to link the Gulf crisis with the Israeli-Arab conflict.

[Begin Clark recording in English] Naturally we discussed the current question of the aggression of Iraq against Kuwait, and I found the observations of Mr. Levi very helpful as I go on to the meeting of foreign ministers.... [end recording]

[Gutman translates the above and continues] I will take the Levi proposals to the meeting of the foreign ministers of the member states of the Security Council, which will discuss Iraq, Minister Clark said.

Foreign Minister Levi stressed that Saddam Husayn's continued rule causes instability in the region and endangers Israel. Israel will not cause any surprises, but it will also not be surprised, Levi said.

Both ministers agreed to renew the functioning of the joint economic committee, which has not convened for four years. Israel will also study the Canadian offer to aid in immigrant housing, although there are still not concrete proposals. [passage omitted]

#### Concludes Talks; Holds Conference

*TA2611190590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark has concluded his talks in Israel and is currently holding a news conference in Jerusalem's King David Hotel. Gid'on Remez reports from there:

The Canadian foreign minister began his remarks by pointing to the stable relations between Canada and Israel, but to tell the truth, that is not what interested the dozens of journalists who came here. What they wanted to know was the policy of Canada, as a member of the Security Council, on the Gulf crisis. Mr. Clark got to that very quickly. After talks with colleagues from the United States, the USSR, and now the Middle East, he is quite sure that when the Security Council convenes in New York on Thursday [29 November] it will agree on a resolution to permit the implementation of previous Council resolutions. In other words, it will contribute to the pressure that will lead Saddam Husayn to leave Kuwait peacefully. I asked him if Canada would therefore support a resolution that would present Saddam Husayn an ultimatum that would give him time to withdraw from Kuwait by 1 January, otherwise military action would be used against him.

[Begin Clark recording in English] I have indicated before that my personal view is that deadlines are artificial, but that if that is the consensus that emerges

from discussions among ministers in the Security Council then Canada would support that consensus. [end recording]

[Remez translates the above and continues] There is great importance in strengthening the United Nations over this issue, because its response to the current crisis will also decide its ability to contribute in the future on other issues, he said and explained what he meant. In meetings with Palestinian leaders in Jerusalem today, Clark said, he rejected any link between the Gulf crisis and the Palestinian issue, but added: I understand why the Palestinians have a feeling of being discriminated against. Will you, Canadians, therefore agree to a new Security Council resolution, following the one already passed on the Temple Mount affair, to send UN observers to the territories, as the Arabs are proposing? That is currently under discussion, Clark said, begging the question. The wording of the resolution is still not clear to us, and Canada will decide on its position based on the final wording, he added.

### Shamir May Propose Gaza 'Gradual Disengagement'

*TA2711080890 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Nov 90 p 1*

[Report by Avner Regev, Moti Bassok, and Washington correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Prominent Likud members have been examining various proposals concerning the peace process in anticipation of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's trip to the United States and his planned meeting with U.S. President George Bush. One of the ideas being floated is to reduce Israeli control over the Gaza Strip. They believe there is no security benefit in continuing to hold on to the Gaza Strip and note that a gradual disengagement from the Strip should be implemented if the Likud wants to retain Israeli control over all of Judaea and Samaria.

Also, they note the timely appointment of a new chief of staff to help them persuade veteran Likud members concerning the aptness of their ideas. [passage omitted]

### Minister Ties U.S.-Syria Rapprochement to Attack

*TA2711114790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1125 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Interview with Professor Yuval Ne'eman, minister of science and technology, energy, and infrastructure, by Natan Gutman; outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem—live]

[Text] [Gutman] Shalom, sir.

[Ne'eman] Shalom.

[Gutman] Perhaps we could hear from you the first reaction to the incident in the north?

[Ne'eman] It was a very regrettable incident, and I would like to share in the families' grief.

As for the operation itself, clearly we should expect a greater threat from the north in the near future. Undoubtedly we are already paying the price for Syria's having joined the United States in the Gulf. Syria has exploited this, completely overturning the situation in Lebanon. The United States has in effect lent its hand to a change which, from the strategic point of view, certainly alters the picture insofar as Israel is concerned. The United States, in this respect, has definitely endangered us.

[Gutman] Are you linking the incident to the ties between the United States and Syria? Do you think this is the reason for the greater number of attacks recently?

[Ne'eman] Yes, clearly there will now be a more massive movement southward by terrorist units of all varieties. In effect, they are leaving Beirut and will proceed to expel the foreign forces—that means Israel, as Syria is supposedly not a foreign force—so that all the efforts will be aimed against us. We should anticipate a growing number of incursions.

[Gutman] Minister Ne'eman, should Israel alter its modus operandi or its reactions, or should it initiate other things in Lebanon?

[Ne'eman] No, I think that I can offer no advice regarding operations in Lebanon, but I think that from a political point of view we must definitely emphasize this point in the United States: There is a distinct erosion in our security situation as a result of the alliance they have struck with Syria and the fact that they have legitimized it.

[Gutman] Thank you very much, Minister Yuval Ne'eman.

### Arens Says Air Raid Not 'Reaction' to Clash

*TA2711121090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1130 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by political reporter Arye Golan outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Golan] Mr. Defense Minister, was the Air Force raid in Lebanon carried out in reaction to the attempted terrorist infiltration that was foiled at such a steep price?

[Arens] No need to see it as a reaction. We conduct routine activities in which the Infantry, Air Force, and Navy participate. These activities contribute to Israel's sense of security. We will pursue these activities on land, at sea, and in the air, and I hope we will be able to continue safeguarding the security of all Israelis. I hope we will suffer no more losses.

[Golan] There has been, however, a considerable escalation in terrorist attacks, infiltration attempts, and murders of Israelis. Do you not agree?

[Arens] The intensity of activity in southern Lebanon has escalated. It stems, perhaps, from the changes Lebanon has recently undergone, with the Syrians providing military backing for President al-Hirawi.

[Golan] Do you believe, sir, that this exacerbation derives also from the U.S.-Syrian rapprochement?

[Arens] This I cannot say. Perhaps the Syrians interpret it as an encouragement; I cannot say. We have, however, been carrying out military activities on land, at sea, and in the air in southern Lebanon and along the Lebanese coasts for several years now. They take place weekly, sometimes even daily.

[Golan] Minister Arens, there is a feeling that lady luck has abandoned us; there have been many fatalities and many terrorist attacks.

[Arens] Talking about our fallen sons in terms of good or bad luck is very difficult; it is a loss for which there is no consolation. But, in military events, when gunfire is exchanged, even probability and luck have a part.

[Golan] Has the Army drawn any conclusions regarding safety regulations or modus operandi?

[Arens] We are studying the event, as we always do, in order to learn everything possible and draw conclusions. As I have already said, however, the activity north of our border is necessary to enable us to safeguard the State of Israel's security.

[Golan] Mr. Defense Minister, thank you very much.

### Egyptians Allowed To Investigate Attack on Bus

*TA2611194790 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ariv]

[Excerpt] For the first time ever Egypt has transmitted a request to permit Egyptian officers to investigate the bloody attack yesterday near 'En Netafim via the joint military committee, and Israel has agreed. Tomorrow, investigating officers of the Egyptian Army accompanied by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] officers and Foreign Ministry officials will investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident. In the wake of consultations between the leaders of the defense establishment and the Foreign Ministry and their legal advisers, it was also agreed that Israel would permit the Egyptian investigating officers to talk to IDF personnel and civilian eyewitnesses to the attack. It will, of course, be up to each person to decide whether to agree to talk to the Egyptians. There is the impression that the Egyptians want to conduct an efficient and speedy investigation. [passage omitted]

### 'Terrorist Incidents' by Negev Bedouin Increase

*TA2711082890 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 27 Nov 90 p 3*

[Report by Amir Rosenblitt]

[Excerpt] The number and gravity of terrorist incidents perpetrated by bedouin in the Negev have risen sharply since the bloody events on the Temple Mount over a month ago. This was stated by Shlomo Aharonishky, the police's Negev District commander, in a meeting with dozens of bedouin notables and shaykhs held in Beersheba yesterday. Stressing the gravity of the situation, Aharonishky demanded from his audience that they take action in their settlements and tribes to eradicate this phenomenon.

In a briefing to journalists after the meeting, it was reported that about 40 incidents resulting from nationalist motives have been recorded since the events on the Temple Mount, including the planting of a booby-trapped grenade near a roadblock in Moshav Nevatim and the throwing of stones at vehicles passing through the area. In comparison, it was pointed out that only 18 similar incidents were recorded the previous year. [passage omitted]

### USSR Appoints Chistyakov First Consul General

*TA2511125390 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Nov 90 p A1*

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Soviet Union has appointed its first consul general in Israel and will soon exchange messages to that effect with Israel. The consul general will be Aleksey Chistyakov, who has for the past year been the head of the Soviet consular delegation operating in Israel under the aegis of the Finnish Embassy.

The Soviet diplomat returned to Israel last week from a visit in Moscow, and over the weekend he reported the appointment to Dr. Yosef Govrin, the Foreign Ministry's deputy director general for East Europe. A few weeks ago Israel appointed Arye Levin, the head of its consular delegation in Moscow, as its consul general. As soon as all diplomatic protocol procedures are completed, Levin will hoist the Israeli flag atop the Israeli Embassy in Moscow. Simultaneously, the Soviet flag will once again fly atop the consulate building in Tel Aviv.

Jerusalem is awaiting the results of the talks being held by the economic delegation currently visiting Moscow. It seems that due to the difficult economic situation in the Soviet Union, the delegation has been unable to conclude deals that would earn foreign currency for Israel.

[A report from Moscow by David Lipkin on page A6 of Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 25 November adds that Professor Andronik Iosif'yan, vice president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and a confidant of President Gorbachev, last Friday, 23 November, told the heads of the Israeli economic delegation that "Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze believes the level of relations with Israel should be raised."]

### IDF General Resigns, Says Army Unfit for War

*TA2711081790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Major General Moshe Bar-Kokhba, nicknamed Brill, the chief of staff's adviser on the study and

evaluation of military operations and on staff maneuvers, is resigning after 42 years in the Army. He is now beginning his preretirement leave.

Maj. Gen. Brill has served in every command and training position in the IDF [Israel Defense Forces]. His employment contract expires in 1992.

Maj. Gen. Brill is leveling harsh and poignant criticism at Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the chief of staff. Our army affairs reporter Karmela Menashe has the details:

Maj. Gen. Moshe Bar-Kokhba is charging the chief of staff with neglecting the study and evaluation of military operations, with wasting valuable time, and with responsibility for the IDF's current inability to provide updated and qualitative answers to challenges posed by the Arab armies.

According to Brill, the chief of staff has created a situation in which the IDF is neither ready nor sufficiently fit to wage a modern war against a potential Arab coalition.

Brig. Gen. Bar-Kokhba believes that the task of analyzing and implementing the lessons of wars should be taken away from the chief of staff and the deputy chief of staff and transferred to a national body that would be appointed to that end.

About six weeks ago, he approached the defense minister, sounded a warning, and asked to be allowed to resign. The minister asked him to wait. Brill charges that the chief of staff has stymied the implementation of war lessons and resorted to delaying tactics and ambiguous retorts, mainly as a result of his fear of conceptual, ideological, and professional confrontations on strategic issues with some of the IDF's best reserve officers.

### Three Kakh 'Leaders' Detained; More Expected

*TA2611161790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] A short while ago, three Kakh leaders were detained in Jerusalem as they were attempting to persuade shopowners not to employ Arab workers. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the three are Tiran Polack, acting leader of the KAKH movement; Barukh Marzel, secretariat member; and movement spokesman No'am Federman.

The police also detained the owner of a print shop in Jerusalem's Romema neighborhood. He is suspected of having printed Kakh leaflets in his shop. More of the movement's activists may be detained in the near future.

### Breakaway Kakh Members Set Up New Organization

*TA2711093790 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Nov 90 p A1*

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[Text] Some prominent past and present prominent members of Kakh gathered last night and decided to establish what they called "an inveterate Jewish party" to carry on the ideology of the late Me'ir Kahana. The new movement does not yet have a name, but it intends to run in the next Knesset elections.

The most prominent members of the new movement are: Yo'el Lerner, head of the Israel Torah Institute's Sanhedrin Society; Baraq Ben-'Amos, a former member of the Jewish Defense League in the United States who quit Kakh 10 years ago; Rabbi David Bar-Hayim, head of the Jewish Ideology Yeshiva that had been directed by Me'ir Kahana; Dr. Moshe Patulsky, a Negev University linguist, Kakh's former number two man, and a close associate of Kahana; Shoshana Hilqiyahu; and Stanley Goldfoot, a member of the pre-state Stern underground group and a liaison between Christian groups and some right-wing movements.

The young men who had surrounded Kahana in the last few years—such as Barukh Marzel, Tiran Polack, No'am Federman, and Mikha'el Ben-Horin, who was mentioned as Kahana's possible successor—are not part of the new organization.

In a meeting last week Kakh's secretariat decided to include Kahana's wife and son in its ranks, but to put off a reshuffle for the time being. This resolution was seen as a refusal to accept former Kakh breakaways in the movement's current leadership.

The establishment of the new organization does not stem from ideological differences, but from a feeling that every member does as he pleases, that there is no discipline, and that the movement's official bodies bear no responsibility and are not consulted. The decision was preceded by a series of meetings in which reservations were voiced about the "irresponsible" activities of these young men. According to some participants, Kahana had not approved of those activities.

In the past few weeks the founders of the new movement had anguished over the question of whether to try and change Kakh from the inside or set up a separate movement. Approached prior to the decision, some of the donors who had been in contact with Me'ir Kahana said they would be willing to assist the new organization financially.

### Attorney General Orders Investigation of Minister

*TA2611162890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] The attorney general has instructed the police to launch an investigation of Religious Affairs Minister Avner Sciaki. Our correspondent Yaron Enosh reports that the decision was made upon a recommendation from the police and the state attorney.

The police will investigate the religious affairs minister's alleged part in the decision to allocate moneys out of the legacies fund managed by the administrator general to societies run by Sciaki's relatives and acquaintances.

### Al-Qasim Receives Security Council Envoys

*JN2711080390 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] At noon today, Mr. Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received in his office the ambassadors in Amman of the USSR, United States, UK, PRC, and France. They discussed the situation in the occupied territories against the backdrop of mounting Israeli repression of the Palestinian people and recent statements by the Israeli prime minister on settling Jewish immigrants there. Mr. al-Qasim said these statements are in accord with the political program of the present Israeli Government and are official Israeli policy to create of the right conditions for the expulsion of Palestinians. In this respect, he pointed out the need for the five permanent UN Security Council members to shoulder their responsibilities toward the volatile state of affairs in the occupied land. Current developments there have proved the untenability of the current state of affairs, thus warranting tangible action by the Security Council in the way of securing protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied land ahead of a durable, just settlement of their issue according to the Council's resolutions and a uniform standard, al-Qasim said.

### Crown Prince Hasan Returns From Japan, France

*JN2611183590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Hasan returned to Amman today, after a tour of Taiwan, Japan, Finland, France, and Britain. His highness answered reporters' questions at Amman airport:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Your Highness the prince: On the sidelines of the enthronement ceremonies in Tokyo, and in Paris, you met with a number of foreign officials and representatives. How receptive did you find them to Jordan's economic situation as a consequence of the Gulf crisis?

[Hasan] My mission had a double purpose. Naturally, I first had to correct certain misconceptions about Jordan's role and position. Naturally, Jordan seeks to contain the Gulf crisis and to see the UN resolutions implemented with an effective Arab contribution as stipulated by the now famous Resolution 660. As for Jordan's role and position and the nature of the Gulf crisis, the participation in Paris, as you recall, included 24 countries directly affected economically and vitally by this crisis. Quite obviously, Jordan is not the only country that has been detrimentally affected. East European bloc countries will experience a bitter winter as a result of this crisis, and the same goes for African nations, which will suffer directly as a consequence—the financial losses, the erosion of the political standing of these nations are also considerable. We tried ceaselessly. We found a special sympathy and understanding for Jordan's role. However, it also seems to me that international moves, this week in particular, and the attempt by the United States to have the UN Security Council pass a fresh resolution authorizing the use of force, puts us in a race with time. The military option is still on the table and every passing day it comes closer, which affects us and the chances for our success, God willing, in averting this catastrophe. One, naturally, remains a believer in God, and in the justice of our causes. Naturally, once again, it was an opportunity to point out what is taking place in occupied Palestinian land. I believe that, at some point down the road of this bitter conflict that we have experienced over the past few months, there is bound to be a return to reason.

[Reporter] Your Highness the prince: How do you explain the repeated refusal to enter into dialogue with Iraq, especially given the willingness displayed by the Iraqi president to make concessions in this regard, by establishing peace and finding a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis?

[Hasan] This has been a central theme in all my meetings—namely, that every time Iraq came up with a proposal, or every time it opened a door, it was closed on the charge that Iraq only makes slogans, or only struggles on the airwaves. In actual fact, quite a few countries are gaining from the continuation of the crisis and rising oil prices, and it seems to me that we will come to a point where we will balance gains and losses. With the oil price staying at $40 or $60 or even, in the event of war, jumping to $100, God forbid—with the resultant profits of billions of dollars—is that a justification for going to war? I think Iraq's position is implicitly understood. The problem though, has been, and will remain how to link withdrawal on the one hand with an Arab contribution on the other. Here again, all the problems of the region must be tackled sequentially. The Israeli withdrawal from occupied Palestinian territory must be considered sequentially. All the issues of the region ought to be approached from the perspective of international justice.

[Reporter] You Highness the prince: Do you think the road is still open for an Arab summit, especially in light of the fact that the Moroccan king called for an expanded summit and then a restricted one?

[Hasan] I think the situation is clear. If there is anything new insofar as the summit is concerned... [changes thought] If the summit is to compare notes and arrive at an Arab stand that could contribute to the UN resolutions and consequently help to contain the crisis, so be it. But if the summit is to condemn what is taking place on the ground—all of us are opposed to annexation and the occupation of others' territory by force—repeated condemnation will not lead to peace or stop bloodshed. We really hope dialogue will find its way back into the Arab ranks, and quiet diplomacy will return to heal the wounds among Arabs, so we can talk to the outside world with the logic of a united Arab region. Naturally, this is a wish, but, of course, we will work to achieve it.

[Reporter] Thank you, Your Highness. [end recording]

### UK's Tony Benn Arrives En Route to Baghdad

*JN2511211990 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2015 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] In London, 15,000 people marched through central London yesterday and demanded that Britain withdraw its troops from the Gulf. British Labor Party Member of Parliament Tony Benn told a rally after the march that opposition to war in the Gulf could force the superpowers to accept a peaceful solution.

Mr. Benn arrived in Amman this evening en route to Baghdad. Our reporter Maha al-Sha'ir asked Mr. Benn about yesterday's demonstration.

[Begin recording] [Benn] It was the second London demonstration. It was a very big one. People came from all over the country, and there were speakers from all over the world there. There is a very strong peace movement in Britain, and in America too. I don't know how well it is reported around the world, but I do not think there is a majority in Britain, or in America for war, and this is one way of expressing it.

[Al-Sha'ir] And you said also yesterday in the protest that you oppose the use of force to pull Iraq out of Kuwait?

[Benn] Yes, I am here on my visit to Baghdad in the hope that I may be able to explore the possibilities of a peaceful settlement, and the role played by King Husayn of Jordan has been a very constructive one, recognized by everyone in the world who wants peace. I come with messages from Nelson Mandela, who is suporting my visit, and also with messages from Willy Brandt, who of course has already been in Baghdad, and the Chinese ambassador in London told me their government was not in favor of force. So, I think there are a lot of people who want to see a peaceful settlement.

[Al-Sha'ir] So you believe, sir, that the superpowers, to be exact the United States and Britain, are not looking for peaceful measures to solve this problem?

[Benn] Well, the impression I have is that President Bush wants a war. That's the impression given, and he was recently in Saudi Arabia talking to the troops. He's been around, James Baker, to try and get support for force, and I think most people realize that it is a war for oil, and there are double standards in respect to the Palestinian rights. What about their rights and the United Nations resolutions there? So, what we have on the one hand is an attempt to build for war, and on the other hand a very rapidly growing world peace movement, and I think that that world peace movement may be strong enough to stop the United States from launching a war. That's why I have come to Amman and on to Baghdad. [end recording]

### Jordanian-Romanian Committee Views Cooperation

*JN2611121490 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Meetings of the ninth session of the Jordanian-Romanian joint committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation began at the Ministry of Planning today. The committee will discuss over a week of meetings cooperation in the various fields, export of phosphate and potash, and oil exploration. The committee will also discuss cultural cooperation between the two countries and the possibility of drafting an agreement to promote and protect investment in the two countries.

### King Husayn Speaks to Arab Engineers Council

*JN2611123190 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn has said that we are going through a delicate stage in our history. Despite all the dangers and challenges we are facing, he added, we continue to have hopes in the Arab man in the great Arab homeland, where millions of Arabs have the same hopes and ambitions. During an audience at Raghadan Palace this afternoon with Arab engineers taking part in the meetings of the Higher Council of the Arab Engineers Union, which is holding its 7th follow-up session in Amman, the king said that this is a decisive stage in our life. Nevertheless, I am sure our nation will pass the stage and will beat off all challenges through steadfastness, continued confrontation, and obstruction of the ambitions and intentions of the covetous and enemies.

His majesty stressed: I was and will continue to be one of the sons of this nation, performing his duty of defending the nation and the rights of its coming generations to live with dignity on its land. He asserted that there will be no despair despite all the difficulties and that Jordan and all virtuous people in this nation will maintain their confidence and determination to achieve victory. He said the apparent features of discord are temporary because the Arab man is always capable of protecting his homeland and nation and achieving his hopes and aspirations. His majesty expressed wishes of success for the Arab engineers in their meetings in Amman in the interests of the homeland and the nation. [passage omitted]

### Cabinet To Present Two Budgets for 1991

*JN2611113590 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Nov 90 p 1*

["Special to the JORDAN TIMES" by Fahd al-Fanik]

[Text] Amman—The government plans to submit to Parliament two draft fiscal budgets for 1991 instead of one.

In addition to the general fiscal budget totalling JD [Jordanian dollars] 118.3 million, the government plans to introduce an extraordinary budget of JD 120 million.

The expenses side in the extraordinary budget will provide for government assistance to different parties adversely affected by the Gulf crisis, and to meet the cost of setting up or expanding infrastructure and facilities to accommodate returnees from Kuwait and to give direct aid to the transport, tourism, agriculture and industry sectors, all hard hit by the crisis.

Revenues for this extraordinary budget are expected to come from compensations offered to Jordan by various international organisations if they exceeded those projected in the ordinary fiscal budget. The budget law will stipulate that nothing will be spent under the extraordinary terms until revenues materialise and to the extent of these revenues.

### House Committees Elect Chairmen, Rapporteurs

*JN2611102790 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1610 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (PETRA)—The House of Representatives' four permanent committees held meetings today during which they decided to elect chairmen and rapporteurs for these committees as follows:

The Financial Committee:

Deputy Dr. 'Abdallah al-Nusur, chairman

Deputy Dr. 'Abdallah al-'Akayilah, rapporteur

The Legal Committee:

Deputy Husayn Mujalli, chairman

Deputy Dr. Muhammad Abu-Faris, rapporteur

The Administrative Committee:

Deputy Jamal al-Khurayshah, chairman

Deputy Dawud Qujaq, rapporteur

The Foreign Affairs Committee:

Deputy Tahir al-Masri, chairman

Deputy 'Isa Madanat, rapporteur

The six temporary committees also held meetings today during which they elected their chairmen and rapporteurs as follows:

The Educational Committee:

Deputy Dhuqan al-Hindawi, chairman

Deputy Ibrahim Khuraysat, rapporteur

The Agricultural Committee:

Deputy Sultan al-'Adwan, chairman

Deputy Muhammad al-'Alawinah, rapporteur

The Rural and Desert Committee:

Deputy Nayif al-Hadid, chairman

Deputy Sa'd Hayil al-Surur, rapporteur

The Health and Environmental Safety Committee:

Deputy Dr. 'Ali al-Hawamidah, chairman

Deputy Dr. 'Awni al-Bashir, rapporteur

The Palestine and the Occupied Arab Territories Committee:

Deputy 'Abd-al-'Aziz Jabr, chairman

Deputy Mansur Sayf-al-Din Murad, rapporteur

The Public Liberties and Citizens' Rights Committee:

Deputy Ahmad al-Azayidah, chairman

Deputy Salim al-Zu'bi, rapporteur

### Deputies Respond to King Husayn's Speech

#### Senate Reply

*JN2511195990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Nov 90*

["Text" of Senate speech in reply to King Husayn's 17 November speech from the throne, read by Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi before King Husayn at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 25 November—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: May God's peace and blessings be upon our faithful and Arab Prophet Muhammad. Your Majesty King Husayn, may God protect you and guide your steps. The Senate welcomed the speech from the throne with appreciation and pride, as it was characterized by a keen approach that encourages us and Jordanians in all walks of life to face the future and its challenges with determination, sacrifices, and resolution. The noble speech from the throne emphasized the solidarity among all Jordanian people and the unity of their stands on the nation's major and serious causes. The speech also emphasized that all citizens have demonstrated their responsibility through their concern for the security, freedom, and progress of the homeland guided by its tolerant Islamic teachings and spiritual values; through the government's abiding by the Constitution in letter and spirit, the provision of broad opportunities for free dialogue, the reaffirmation of the importance of democracy and its role in pushing ahead the national march, through protecting the judiciary's independence, and the process of abrogating martial law. All this has given us the ability to tackle the difficult circumstances that we all face as one body under the canopy of solid national unity whose main pillars consist of freedom, responsibility, and national affiliation.

While praising all the achievements during this period within the framework of democracy, achievements embodied in the cohesion between the will of your majesty and that of your government with that of the people, and the continuing mature interaction among the various sectors of the people, and their deeply-rooted commitment to all the requirements for rendering the march a success and allowing it to reach its noble objectives, the Senate highly values your majesty's initiative to form the Royal Committee for the Formulation of the National Charter. The Senate hopes that this

charter will become an authority based on the Constitution's principles, a national and pan-Arab milestone on the road to progress and a prosperous and brilliant future, God willing, and that legislation will be passed under this charter on political parties, publications, and vocational and youth organizations.

Your Majesty, your remarks on the Jordanian position on the Palestinian cause confirms the soundness of your course, and of the stand of your people on this cause and on all our Arab nation's causes. It is a position that we view as a yardstick for measuring the soundness of any Arab and international position that respects justice, fair treatment, international law, and human rights. The Palestinian cause is our central cause, by which we live and which lives in our hearts. We will always support the militant Palestinian Arab people, strengthening their heroic national intifadah and consolidating their steadfastness on their land with all that we possess and with all our means.

The Senate has followed closely your majesty's advance warnings on the perils of Jewish immigration to the occupied Palestinian land, and your majesty's call to Arab and Islamic governments and the international community to carry out their duties to confront these perils. These perils threaten the fate of the Palestinian cause—territory and people—and endanger the security of neighboring countries, the stability of the entire region, and consequently, world peace.

The Senate shares your majesty's extreme distress and indignation over the savage massacres committed by the Zionist enemies against our Palestinian Arab people in the courtyards of the blessed al-Aqsa Mosque. That valiant people are still giving their pure blood and convoys of martyrs every day in defense of our sacred places against those who want to destroy the al-Aqsa Mosque and build the Temple on its ruins. This is a challenge to the Islamic nation and in full sight of the world, while the United States and the forces supporting it are not shouldering their international responsibility to deter aggression, protect human rights, and implement international resolutions. They [the United States and its allies] insisted on equating the victim with the criminal in a shameful denunciation cloaked in the ugliest forms of international hypocrisy.

Your Majesty, the eruption of the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait and its negative consequences and complications, caused by the United States of America and its allies, have undermined the Arab order and threatened the interests of all Arab people. Regrettably, certain Arab brothers have helped the United States of America and its allies to mass their military troops on the land of the Arabian Peninsula to strike at Iraq's power and the awakening it represents and to violate Arab territories and wealth.

The Senate highly praises your ceaseless efforts to contain the crisis before it gets worse and your sincere, constant endeavor to find a peaceful solution to it within the Arab context free from any foreign intervention so the will of the nation can triumph and the Arab homeland and the region can avert an inevitable catastrophe, the extent of which only God knows.

Like all citizens of the Arab nation in Jordan and throughout the greater Arab homeland, the Senate members desire peace and work for its sake, but they also reject weakness and refuse to submit to the will of the forces of evil and aggression. The Senate is fully confident that your majesty will continue your pan-Arab role seeking a solution to the Gulf crisis within its Arab context despite all the false accusations and the misunderstanding by others of the nobility of your objectives.

Your Majesty, we believe in the principles in which you believe and on which your distinguished stands were based to confront the threats facing the nation and its destiny. Your majesty has shown concern for the Arabs' future and the unity of the pan-Arab stand, in all of its dimensions and responsibilities. You have clung to the hope and the need for responsible inter-Arab dialogue even though you saw the crisis being taken out of its Arab context into the international arena. You have reminded the Arab leaders that the differences in opinions and stands should not cause the severance of ties and links, drop to the level of campaigns that would lead to increasing the fragmentation or acts that harm the ordinary Arab citizen in its bread and butter, and divert us from our collective responsibility toward our kinfolk in occupied Palestine and our role to face the Zionist expansionist schemes.

Your Majesty, as the Senate shares your insight, it condemns the double standards of the world in pursuing legitimacy, and, similarly, condemns the double standards practiced at the United Nations and the contradictions and serious flaws in the international stance. The result of this is that the UN Security Council has lost credibility and become a pliable tool in the hands of the United States, passing ten resolutions to justify the deployment of aggressive, oppressive forces, and the imposition of the blockade. In the meantime, the Security Council ignored the implementation of its previous resolutions and those of the UN General Assembly on the Palestine question and the rights of its people, failing to take any measure toward their implementation in the face of rebelliousness of the Zionist state. The position of the United States was responsible for the failure of these resolutions to be executed. The United States continues to reject the notion of linkage between the Palestinian issue and the Gulf crisis and the implementation of all pertinent UN resolutions. This is despite the fact that linkage is the ideal way to avert catastrophe and promote a just, peaceful solution to the crisis.

Your Majesty, the Senate, only too aware of the facts of the situation the country has been going through for years, with its positive and negative points, sees the country's start on the road of democracy as a bright beginning for a major effort that must be made if we are to address the country's financial and economic ills and

to pull out the sick roots in the structure of our national economy. Your Government's accomplishments referred to by your majesty mark good beginnings and are emblematic of a serious approach. But the scale and depth of the crisis require that all benevolent forces in our country be combined to energize the economy activities, recruit the available resources, and direct ourselves toward a productive economy in industry, agriculture, and services. As a result of the Gulf crisis, and the unjust siege, Jordan has suffered severe economic losses, thus strengthening its claim to the compensation that it deserves in accordance with the UN Charter and pertinent resolutions and recommendations. We realize that attempts by some countries to keep Jordan from enjoying the benefits of its deserved compensation are nothing less than pressure tactics to force Jordan into submission and to deflect it from its sound, pan-Arab policy. We cannot fail to take note of the responsible manner in which the Government and its agencies, along with voluntary popular bodies, handled the accommodation of close to one million arrivals in a short space of time and providing them with the necessary care in complex, difficult circumstances, thus playing a humanitarian role on which our country can rightly pride itself.

Our house is dismayed by joblessness that has been rampant for quite some time, and which has been aggravated by the departure or expulsion of large numbers of Jordanians working in the Gulf and their return to their country, having lost their jobs and livelihoods. This situation calls for a prompt and radical response whereby the public and private sectors should set up industrial, agricultural, and economic projects to pave the way for fresh productive work.

Your Majesty, the Senate appreciates the key role of the Armed Forces and Public Security and is aware of the esteem in which both are held by your majesty and your people, and the high hopes attached to these services. The Senate shares all that you do in the way of the attention given to these forces and their development in terms of numbers, equipment, training, and armament, all the more so given an ever increasing threat to attack our dear homeland and our nation. Thus the need becomes all the more clear for universal participation on our part to support our Armed Forces and broaden the base of the popular army in terms of numbers, equipment, and training for it to become an effective auxiliary of our Armed Forces and a shield for our national security against any aggression. As we recognize the effort to expand health and social services to the underprivileged sections of the community, we believe that the right of the public to health care is a legitimate one that calls for the introduction of a comprehensive system of health care to confirm the importance of Your Majesty's directives in this regard, now that such a system has assumed special priority.

Your Majesty, Jordan, since its establishment, has been a sanctuary for all free and honest men of the sons of the Arab nation. Its genuine Arab people have always been pan-Arab, unionist, and free people who live for their nation's causes, and who do not relinquish any of its rights or abandon their responsibilities toward it. Thus, it deserved to be the home of the Great Arab Revolt and the upholder of its message. Today, the people are united, cohesive, and impregnable to attempts at infiltration and fragmentation; they reject partition and subservience and are determined to achieve the Arab nation's objectives of unity, freedom, and progress.

Your Majesty, the Senate believes in the principle of shura, which Jordan has accepted as a basic pillar of progress, development, and service to the homeland and nation. The Senate will continue to strengthen the spirit of cooperation between the legislative and executive branches.

Your Majesty's speech from the throne has left a great and deep impression in us. We found in the speech bright moments, rays of hope, and starting points for work, which have instilled a new spirit in us and which encourage citizens to observe the highest standards of duty and responsibility.

May God grant your majesty success; lead your steps on the path of right, awakening, progress, and unity; grant you strength; and keep you as a noble symbol of steadfastness, honor, and pride for Jordan and all Arabs. God will certainly aid those who aid His cause; for verily God is full of strength, exalted in might, able to enforce His will. [Koranic verses] May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

### House Reply

*JN2511172990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1224 GMT 25 Nov 90*

["Text" of House of Representatives speech in reply to King Husayn's 17 November speech from the throne, read by House Speaker Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat before King Husayn at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 25 November—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: May God's peace and blessings be upon the faithful Arab prophet. Your Majesty King Husayn, may God preserve you. Greetings, and peace and blessings be upon you. The House of Representatives, which listened to the speech from the throne when your majesty opened the second ordinary session of the 11th Jordanian Parliament is honored today to deliver its reply to the speech from the throne, is proud of your majesty's stands on the fateful causes of the nation, and values your persistent struggle to build and develop the homeland, liberate every occupied Arab land—primarily the land of Palestine—and set free the Arab individual's will and strengthen Shura and democracy.

Jordan's march of Shura and democracy has highlighted the cohesion among its people, the enhancement of its national unity, and the consolidation of its front against the dangers engulfing it. This march has also enhanced the front of challenge against the invaders and aggressors

who have taken up positions on our Arab soil and sacred places in Palestine and the Arabian Peninsula. While it reemphasizes the contents of your majesty's speech on consolidating the principle of interaction and cooperation among the various branches, the House believes in the need to enhance this role within the concept of the separation of powers and cooperation among them. The House also emphasizes the importance that the executive branch should faithfully express the inclinations of the House of Representatives, because the House is the best guarantee of overcoming crises and tribulations.

Your Majesty, the most prominent characteristic of our Jordanian Constitution is that it acknowledges the basic liberties of the citizen. This establishes the basis of freedom of expression. We believe that these noble principles of the Constitution need to be further confirmed in practice so that we can release the creative abilities of our people and let them contribute to development and construction and defend the homeland from its enemies.

The House of Representatives values your majesty's formation of a royal committee to formulate a national charter, a document that will benefit everyone as the basis for Parliament to pass the necessary legislation to consolidate democracy and organize our public affairs. In accordance with the principle of protecting the citizen and his rights, giving attention to the judicial branch in terms of its independence, efficiency, and speedy and sound performance, in addition to providing it with all the prerogatives it needs for its work, is the basis for making the citizen feel secure and safe.

The House believes that it is time to abrogate martial law, because the reason for its continued existence is no longer valid, and to suspend its enforcement, because the government pledged to abrogate it within a period of six months after winning its vote of confidence.

The House also takes a serious view of the need to tackle administrative and financial corruption cases speedily and fairly, expose those who are involved in them—whether at home or abroad—bring them to trial before ordinary courts, and have the Government authorities cooperate seriously to achieve this objective.

While our House appreciates Your Majesty's directives regarding the release of all political convicts and detainees, we believe that the principle of shura and democracy allows different opinions in an atmosphere of amity and tolerance, which we are practicing as part of our Islamic ethics and good Arab character. In this, we are also inspired by the Jordanian Constitution and the fact that these are institutionalized rules governing our public life. Releasing the remaining political convicts and detainees, furthermore, will consolidate the atmosphere of tolerance and amity at a time when all efforts are directed against the enemies who are threatening us and our democracy. We want to add our appreciation for the return of those who had been dismissed for political reasons to their jobs and for the commitment to return the remaining ones. We also look forward to stopping the practice of obtaining security approval for public and private appointments, so as to emphasize the citizen's right to free expression and work.

While the House of Representatives appreciates the achievements concerning public and personal liberties, it is waiting for political governmental decision to facilitate the return to the country of Jordanians not allowed to return and to lift the work and travel restrictions imposed on them, and give them full rights as citizens.

While we see our media and press adopting a respectable pan-Arab position, we believe that giving the media further responsible freedom will enhance their credibility and deepen the spirit of honorable and objective competition. We also believe that the speedy passage of a press and publications law will help spread constructive criticism and various viewpoints, reflecting the positive results of political pluralism, which we all seek.

Your Majesty, we agree with you that the Palestine question is our central issue now. Our commitment to this issue is genuine and needs no proof. We share with your majesty the willingness to support the valiant national intifadah of the Palestinian people and to cooperate with the PLO to enhance their steadfastness on their land so that they can liberate their blessed lands and establish their independent state throughout Palestinian soil.

Under these difficult circumstances, the Palestinian people are facing the dangers of Jewish arrogance, massacres, and genocide. We call on all sincere people in this nation to support the struggle of the Palestinian people with every possible means, and we call for improving the daily life of our kinfolk in the West Bank and addressing the problems of our brother Gazans who are living among us, through coordination with the PLO, to ease their suffering as a result of the hated occupation.

We feel sorry for the harassment to which the twin Jordanian and Palestinian peoples are being subjected in some Arab countries as a result of the implications of the Gulf crisis—harassment that weakens their steadfastness and prevents them from performing their national role in serving their nation.

Out of our concern for the massive dangers of Jewish immigration, which threatens our existence and the existence of the entire Arab nation, we call on our nation to rise seriously to counter these dangers, to unify its efforts to confront the expansionist Jewish ambitions, and to eradicate this entity that intruded on our existence, homelands, and sanctities. And because Jordan is the first confrontation line in defense of the Arab and Islamic nation, and because it is the land of mobilization and steadfastness, it is the duty of all Arabs and Muslims to support Jordan's steadfastness, especially now, when we are facing the colonialist Zionist-American onslaught and its allies, which is aimed against our existence and culture.

Your Majesty, the House of Representatives highly appreciate your sound position on the Gulf crisis and the need to reach an Arab solution to the crisis in order to avoid turning the nation's current differences into an inevitable catastrophe that would destroy our present and place our future in our enemies' hands. It also appreciates your voicing of the principle of linkage among all UN resolutions, whether on the Gulf crisis or the Palestine question. We certainly believe that the foreign invading forces have come to our holy places for no other reason than to achieve their ambitions of controlling our resources, preventing our cultural awakening, and fragmenting our ranks and capabilities. We strongly denounce seeking help from foreigners and consider it a grave mistake that cannot be corrected except by expelling the invaders from the sacred Arab land, and by healing differences among Arab brothers. We also denounce some regimes in the Arab and Islamic states for lining up in the American trench, especially since they have reinforced aggression and supported the historical enemy of the nation's aspirations. The Gulf crisis has exposed the huge Arab funds that are accumulated and mortgaged in Western banks and institutions, and the wasting and squandering of Arab funds through spending on the foreign invasion forces. Perhaps, it is the first time in history that the usurped have financed the usurper.

Our House reiterates its support for our fraternal people in Iraq, and for their confrontation of the American onslaught and its allies. It also expresses its astonishment and denunciation of the UN Security Council resolutions that imposed blockade on the fraternal people of Iraq and deprived them of their basic needs. These illegal and immoral resolutions have become tools for America to use in carrying out its aggression against our region and achieve its ambitions here. Despite the soundness of the official Jordanian position, and your majesty's persistent efforts to reach an honorable peaceful solution to this crisis—that should have earned the appreciation of all members of the international community—we have seen that there has been an insistence to punish Jordan, impose blockade against it, and starve its people under the canopy of international law and UN Security Council resolutions. We share your majesty's opinion to condemn the double standards regarding the international legitimacy's dealings with the region's issues, which call for implementing the resolutions against Iraq, yet ignore the resolutions on Palestine and the heinous crimes perpetrated by the Zionist enemy in Palestine. At the same time, this legitimacy imposes blockade on Iraqi children, denies them food and medicine, and its warships and military concentrations are deployed on Jordan's outlet to the Red Sea, imposing on us an unjust blockade. We therefore look with astonishment at an unjust international legitimacy that uses double standards.

Your Majesty, the problem of unemployment is closely linked with the security of society. This is why tackling it is of extreme importance. We feel that it has not gained sufficient attention of the competent authorities in fighting it and taking remedial measures to deal with it. Nor have the measures taken to control and activate the labor been sufficient or had a tangible effect on people's lives. This is why pockets of poverty have increased instead of decreased. We hope that the development and labor fund will play an effective role in supporting small and medium agricultural and industrial projects, particularly in the rural areas and the desert. We believe that it is necessary to promulgate a new labor law that would safeguard our workers' dignity, guarantee their rights, and organize labor affairs among its parties. Achieving food security is undoubtedly a basic pillar of social security. Based on this, securing the basic foodstuffs and maintaining stability in their prices is a popular demand, and subsidizing supply commodities and making them reach those who are entitled to them is a national duty and a noble humanitarian objective. What would help secure these commodities is taking care of agriculture and expanding agricultural land and its reclamation. The House believes in distributing tribal title deeds to those entitled to them as soon as possible. We put special emphasis on encouraging the planting of seeds in order to achieve self-reliance. Encouraging local animal wealth and providing the means would contribute to the desired food security. We also emphasize the need to control the marketing process, proceeding from a comprehensive policy of production and marketing, and the need to facilitate the measures of leasing, delegating, or selling government property.

Your Majesty, we would like the economic reform program to be reconsidered, and economic policies devised that balance the various economic sectors to meet the needs and ambitions of the citizens for a sound economic base in order to promote economic independence and self-reliance as a guarantee of our steadfastness and the liberation of our political will.

The Gulf developments have adversely affected our brother citizens who work in that region, causing huge financial losses. This problem must be addressed by holding the requisite political contacts to ensure their rights.

Your Majesty, the representatives of the nation recognize your efforts and good offices on the Arab and international fronts to secure financial support to compensate Jordan for the losses it has suffered as a result of the Gulf developments. Similarly, they appreciate the sustained efforts of his royal highness the crown prince to explain our political position and the economic implications of the Gulf crisis for Jordan. They also recognize the Government's efforts in accommodating a million arrivals of different nationalities since the crisis erupted, leading many brotherly friendly peoples to praise the hospitality shown by Arab and Muslim Jordan.

We call on the Government to redouble its efforts with the support of the United Nations and its agencies to see Jordan is reimbursed for the considerable losses to the Jordanian economy. This is at a time when the United States arrogantly stands in the way of Jordan receiving its deserved compensation, as Washington seeks to

humiliate it and force it to serve the anti-Arab, anti-Muslim objectives of Zionism—something that both our leadership and people reject.

Your Majesty, the foundations on which national progress is built are the generations raised on virtue derived from its values and civilization. As part of the Arab-Islamic nation, we can only wake from our slumber if we adopt a system of education based on our original principles of faith, noble Islamic teachings, and the virtuous morals of the prophet. This calls for a special effort to allocate more class hours to the subject of Islamic education. Our educational system must be based on a scientific method, and the needs and aspirations of the people. The government must put in place a plan of educational development with all its components and elements. One of our noblest aims is the use of Arabic as the medium of instruction in our universities, since, for any nation, language is the mold of thought and culture. A nation realizes itself through its thought and language. We also emphasize the need to broaden the base of admission to state universities, taking account of the nation's requirements according to a well thought-out plan and to establish equal opportunity. We call for more attention to youth welfare and for their guidance in the spirit of their tolerant creed and their venerable sharia. And we call for fostering youth organizations, establishing a general union of Jordanian youth, and encouraging cultural innovation in our country. We urge the government to pay serious attention to the moral and educational aspects through the news media, in order to build a generation of Arabism and Islam to protect our Jordan east of the river and to free our usurped homeland west of the river—the passage of Prophet Muhammad on his way to heaven, and the cradle of his brother, Jesus.

Your Majesty, we recognize the good beginning made in providing health care, and wish to see in the foreseeable future a draft law to provide medical care for all citizens in all medical institutions throughout the land without discrimination. The government will have thus met a commitment it made to the House of Representatives when the Medical Therapeutic Institution was abolished.

Low-income people need houses to shelter them from the heat of the summer and the cold of the winter. It is the duty of the state to provide these houses at the cost price, not to burden them with heavy prices and usurious interest. We welcome the establishment of the Islamic Message and Foundations of Religion College and the Faculty of Shari'a and Islamic Studies at the al-Yarmuk University. We believe that the law of preaching and guidance and the regulations issued in accordance with this law be reconsidered in a manner that ensures the dignity of preachers and their freedom to perform their tasks.

The nation's representatives are looking forward to carrying out administrative reform and development as a necessary step to solve many economic, political, social, and other problems. The government has not done much in this respect. The changes among director generals and some senior government employees have not achieved the desired result. This requires that the structure of administrative bodies and employment cadres be reconsidered on the bases of competence and honesty, so that it can perform its job in our march and progress.

We believe that the powers of the Audit Bureau should be expanded and its independence be guaranteed so as to achieve full financial control. We are waiting for the government to draft a law for administrative control so that it and the Audit Bureau can ensure administrative and financial control on governmental and public institutions.

Your Majesty, concerning our Armed Forces, the shield of the homeland, the wall of the nation, and the shelter of the people, their task is to protect the people and the country and to liberate the sanctities. These forces are kept for difficult times. They, therefore, must be cared for and provided with everything they need despite the financial constraints and meager resources. The security services' mission is to maintain the domestic front against enemy plots and to guarantee security in an atmosphere of responsible freedom. These services should also receive support and finance.

Regarding the popular army, it is a requirement of the people as a whole. The measures taken so far in terms of training and armament have not been up to the required level, nor in proportion with the challenges at this difficult stage in the history of our nation and people. We are of the view, therefore, that the base of the popular army be expanded in terms of expediting the training of all citizens capable of using arms, providing them with arms as soon as possible, building shelters and fortifications, and organizing and preparing the people so they are all capable of defending their honor, blood, and country and contributing to the liberation of the usurped sanctities.

Your Majesty, the nation's deputies view with pride and appreciation your majesty's national positions, and respectfully appreciate your noble pan-Arab stance, which you have adopted with the courage of a leader in harmony with himself, sensing the feelings of his people and nation. We, in particular, refer to your warm and ever-increasing call for Arab unity as an embodiment of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and a reflection of your determination to liberate Jerusalem, to which our hearts yearn with love. Your Majesty's position is an honest reflection of the sentiments of the Arabs everywhere and is a source of pride for us, driving us to rally closely around your leadership. We have increasing hope that Jordan's march will continue to move forward until we achieve the unity, freedom, and better life we are looking for in compliance with what God almighty says: "Verily, this brotherhood of yours is a single brotherhood, and I am your lord and cherisher. Therefore, serve me and no other." Finally, we beseech God to make Jordan an oasis of security, safety, dignity, and stability. He is the best supporter and backer. Peace be upon you.

## Reportage on Attack on Israeli Soldiers

### Account of Fighting

*NC2711082590 Paris AFP in English 0749 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] RASHAYYA, Lebanon, Nov 27 (AFP)—Several Israeli soldiers were killed in a clash with guerrillas inside Lebanon on Tuesday, police said here.

No exact toll for the casualties on either side was available.

The fighting broke out around midnight in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone", about 10 kilometres (six miles) from the village of Shab'a.

Ambulances were rushed to the scene, escorted by Israeli military vehicles. Helicopters flew some of the dead and injured to Israel.

After two hours of fighting with weapons of all calibres, the guerrillas were pushed back towards Rashayya, with Israeli helicopters in hot pursuit. Israeli Phantom fighter-bombers dropped flares to faciliate the manhunt on the ground, while Israeli artillery pounded the Rashayya region, police said.

No organisation immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

### Five Soldiers Reported Killed

*TA2711105290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1030 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Five IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers were killed last night in a clash with terrorists in the eastern sector of Lebanon, another soldier was wounded. Two terrorists were killed in the clash. The fallen IDF soldiers are Sergeant Gad Meinfeld; First Sergeant Ro'i Domb; Sgt. Amnon Qadmon; 1st Sgt. Tal Gay. The family of the fifth soldier has been notified.

Close to 2300 [2100 GMT] last night an IDF unit was carrying out an initiated operation on the northwest slopes of the security zone in Lebanon. The unit spotted a four-man terrorist squad making its way toward Israeli territory and opened fire at the squad. In the short-range exchange of fire, during which grenades were hurled, five IDF soldiers were killed and one soldier was wounded. Two of the terrorists were killed and two others, one of whom was wounded, managed to escape.

The terrorists belonged to George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The terrain where the clash occurred is a known infiltration axis used by terrorist squads heading toward Israel. The terrorists were carrying explosives.

This morning, Air Force planes raided terrorist targets northeast of Sidon in Lebanon. This report was received from news agencies which said that eight missiles were fired at the village of Sharhabil. The name of the organization that came under attack is still unclear. This is the 16th raid of terrorist positions in south Lebanon since the beginning of this year. The news agencies add that since this morning, Air Force planes have been raiding targets in Lebanon.

### PFLP Claims Responsibility

*NC2711121390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Resistance fighters carried out a large-scale operation against the Israeli occupation forces near the occupied township of Shab'a in the eastern sector last night. The agent militias' radio reported that the two sides suffered casualties but gave no other details.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], led by George Habash, today claimed responsibility for the attack on the Israeli forces and stressed that the Israelis suffered grave losses. In its statement issued in Beirut, the PFLP said that as of noon today the fighting was still raging in the eastern sector.

### Retaliatory Raid Confirmed

*TA2711112390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1117 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Excerpt] This morning Air Force planes raided terrorist targets east of Sidon. All our planes returned safely to base.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman adds that the targets that came under attack belong to Abu-Nidal's [Sabri al-Banna] organization and to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by Nayif Hawatimah. The targets had served as launching pads for operations against Israel. [passage omitted]

### VOM Report

*NC2711104490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1015 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Four Israeli aircraft raided eastern Sidon at 1120 today, targeting positions held by the Fatah-Revolutionary Council [FRC] in the vicinity of Tallat Sharhabil overlooking Wadi 'Arah. They fired eight rockets at these positions and columns of smoke are rising from the scene while the aircraft are still overflying the area, drawing antiaircraft fire.

A spokesman for the FRC said that there have been a number of casualties. Meanwhile, at 1115 Israeli helicopters began flying over the border strip. Sources in the occupied border strip reported that a number of Israeli officers arrived at the Tallat 'Ayn Qinya post aboard a helicopter a short time ago.

Citing security sources, REUTER said that three Israeli soldiers were killed by an explosion in southern Lebanon as they combed an area inside the occupied border strip.

### Israeli Movements Reported in South

*NC2711085890 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Reports from the south today indicated that the Israeli occupation authorities have placed their forces and agent militias along the occupied border strip in a maximum state of alert. Security sources said that the Israeli forces are instituting patrols and conducting military movements in the region.

According to the same sources, a state of anxiety prevails in the occupied border region, and occupation soldiers and officers are gripped with panic. Meanwhile, intensive mechanized and foot patrols have been spotted in the eastern and central sectors. The sources stressed that the occupation forces have sent well over 25 armored vehicles to the region in the past few hours. An Israeli force advanced three km inside the liberated areas, to Kawkaba and al-Ahmadiyah.

Meanwhile, flares were fired on the occupied strip areas by the Israeli forces last night as a result of the state of panic caused by the daring resistance operations.

### Hizballah Hails Operations Against Israelis

*NC2711092390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Hizballah has praised the courageous operations that have been carried out by the Islamic mujahidin and honest strugglers against the Zionist occupation in Egypt and in the occupied border strip in southern Lebanon. In a statement released yesterday, Hizballah said that these operations are beacons in the history of resistance to our nation's true enemy, particularly at this critical time when the region is witnessing a new colonialist invasion. The statement said that as we salute the heroes of every resistance operation and their sacrifices, we convey our heartfelt thanks to the forces that masterminded the successful and courageous operation in Egypt, to the 'Arnun suicide operation, and to the group that confronted the enemy naval force in al-Sa'diyat. We offer our heartfelt congratulations to the Islamic Jihad Organization-Bayt al-Maqdis, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party-Higher Council, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

### Al-Musawi Calls for Resistance Against Israel

*NC2311104590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] Brother Sayyid Husayn al-Musawi has affirmed that the door of the struggle between us and the Zionist entity is open, and that we must all be involved in this struggle. Neutrality works in favor of the enemy, he said.

Brother al-Musawi hailed the heroes of the recent operation against the occupation in the border strip. He said: This is the natural response to the Greater Israel scheme and to Bush's challenge to the Muslims when he holds a Thanksgiving prayer for his devils in our holy land in Hejaz.

Speaking at a Koranic symposium held by the information and culture committee of the Islamic Amal Movement in Ba'labakk, brother Sayyid al-Musawi added: One can compromise on everything except the resistance. Only through resistance can we deal with the Jewish immigration to the land of the prophets and reverse it, compelling the immigrants to flee from the mujahidin's power and devotion. He pointed out that the danger Israel poses affects the entire area. Everyone may agree on sparing the Gulf a devastating war except the Zionist entity. It will attempt to spark a war in order to get rid of the Iraqi weapons which someday soon may become the weapons of the Islamic army and the Syrian Arab Army after Saddam falls or after he totally submits to the Islamic nation and its goals.

At the conclusion of his speech, brother al-Musawi called on the Muslim ulema in Lebanon to sponsor the Hizballah-Amal agreement and be in the forefront of the march. The war which has been declared against us by the Jews and the United States is ideological. It is unacceptable for our senior ulema to not lead the Islamic march and stand united under the guardianship of the leader Sayyed Khamene'i, may God protect him.

### Israeli Patrol Attacked, Deployment Reported

*NC2311200990 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Hasbayya has reported that a group of resistance fighters attacked an agent Lahd patrol on the Hasbayya-Shab'a road at dawn today. Rockets and machine guns were used in the attack. During a 30-minute clash, the occupation forces sent additional troops to the scene of the fighting. The resistance, however, managed to return safely to their positions.

The enemy and Lahd radios admitted the operation but failed to mention anything about losses.

In another development, huge forces of the Israeli occupation army were deployed along the eastern sector's frontlines. Reports said that the Israeli forces took over three positions from the Lahd militias in Zummarayya, 'Ayn Qaniyah, and [name indistinct]. The Lahd militias withdrew to their barracks in Tallat Zaghlah. Moreover, the occupation forces declared a curfew in the villages on the contact line in the eastern sector and prevented the farmers from reaching their fields. The occupation forces said they will open fire without advance warning at any violators until further notice. The reasons for this procedure are not yet known.

### Amal, Hizballah Withdraw From Iqlim al-Tuffah

*NC2711065890 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The security committee entrusted with the implementation of the Damascus accord regarding Iqlim al-Tuffah has supervised the withdrawal of Hizballah and Amal gunmen from the region's villages. The committee

supervised the withdrawal of 125 Hizballah gunmen and a number of others from the Amal Movement over the past two days. Artillery was also removed from the region.

The committee sources said that the region will be free of any show of force within the next few days in preparation for the unobstructed deployment of the Army. The committee will hold a meeting in Beirut very soon with the Army officers in charge of the deployment process to put the final touches on the process, expected to go into effect on Friday.

### Lebanese Forces Chief Views Withdrawal Process

*NC2711091490 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Major General Fu'ad Malik, Lebanese Forces' chief of staff, has pointed out that 100 trucks loaded with 500 tons of ammunition and various types of weapons had been withdrawn from al-Ashrafiyah and al-Dawrah and will be taken to Kasrawan either today or tomorrow. He set a deadline of the end of the week for accomplishing the withdrawal process barring any changes on the Lebanese arena which could impede the process.

In his statement, Malik emphasized that the Lebanese Forces are serious in their efforts to remove all the hardware, which weighs hundreds of tons. He noted that the lack of a labor force required to carry the ammunition and weapons has delayed the process.

### Lebanese Forces Comment on Delay of Withdrawal

*NC2711073790 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The Lebanese Forces continue to withdraw their personnel and hardware from al-Ashrafiyah, al-Dawrah, and their suburbs in preparation for the Lebanese Army's deployment in these areas as part of the process to establish Greater Beirut.

The Lebanese Forces' Information Department has denied that the timetable for withdrawal has been delayed. The department pointed out that the delay has been prompted by technical factors and by the size of the Forces' military machine in al-Ashrafiyah.

### Weapons To Be Confiscated During Deployment

*NC2711064990 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The Defense Ministry has emphasized that it will confiscate all of the weapons found immediately after the Army's deployment in Greater Beirut. The ministry pointed out that the deployment date will be announced within 48 hours.

The Lebanese Forces will complete their withdrawal from al-Ashrafiyah and the port tomorrow [Wednesday] evening or Thursday morning. Meanwhile, preparations are under way to deploy the Army in Iqlim al-Tuffah and Greater Beirut.

### Government Reportedly To Announce Resignation

*NC2611180390 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] The government is expected to announce its resignation on Wednesday. The BEIRUT NEWS AGENCY cited political sources as saying that parliamentary consultations will begin tomorrow to form a new government to succeed the present one after Greater Beirut is accomplished. The sources expected the consultations to extend until the middle of next week.

### Al-Huss To Be New Leader

*NC2711070690 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Our information indicates that the government will tender its resignation during its next meeting. Meanwhile, Riyadh Radio has cited highly-placed sources in Beirut as saying that President al-Hirawi has begun consultations regarding the new government. According to the radio, Prime Minister Dr. al-Huss will head the new government which will include some new faces.

### Al-Hirawi Holds 'Anniversary' News Conference

*NC2511222990 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2145 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] At a news conference held tonight on the first anniversary of his election, President Ilyas al-Hirawi indicated that the al-Ta'if agreement provided solutions to all the political, security, social, educational, and economic problems from which the country is suffering.

President al-Hirawi said that following the implementation of the Greater Beirut plan, the coming phase will witness a comprehensive security plan for all the country that will be implemented within six month's time.

Responding to a question about the government to be formed, President al-Hirawi said that all the influential bodies will be represented, even those with a military character, so that they may participate in the decision to resolve the militias.

On the appointment of deputies, President al-Hirawi said: I regret that there should be the principle of appointing deputies, even for only one time, in Lebanon, the democratic country. Within this context, we will give every Lebanese citizen the opportunity to to present his nomination to the Interior Ministry accompanied by the usual official papers and a resume. The Cabinet will peruse the qualifications of the candidate and will take into consideration the candidate's popular representation. President al-Hirawi added: I emphasize that there are no names ready of deputies, or we would not have taken these measures.

## Press Views Outcome of Al-Asad, Bush Summit

*JN2511091190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0545 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Press review]

[Text] All newspaper commentaries today have dealt with the Geneva summit between His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President George Bush and the important results that they have reached.

In its editorial today, the newspaper AL-BA'TH affirms that the summit between Presidents al-Asad and Bush in Geneva was the focus of attention by the media, and political and diplomatic quarters all over the world. It was an event that manifested itself as a significantly pivotal development affecting the course of events on both the regional and international scenes, the paper says.

AL-BA'TH adds: These days there is no doubt that special significance is given to Syria's views on events and developments. This is due to its independent policy, which is based on a desire to promote its national interests and play its immense pan-Arab role on the Arab scene, and an eagerness to shoulder its responsibilities vis-a-vis the central issue of the Arab nation. These views have acquired added significance and weight at various world fora and gatherings. This shows once again that Syria's views cannot be ignored and that its positions on regional developments cannot be overlooked.

AL-BA'TH affirms that a careful examination of the Syrian and U.S. press statements issued in the wake of the meeting brings one to the conclusion drawn by most world news media—that His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad was the best man to represent the Arab nation and vindicate the higher Arab interests. This examination would also show that Syria's principled policy, which has been well known to the Arab masses over the past years, has remained unchanged. Such a careful examination would also demonstrate that it is a policy that seeks to attain a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of UN resolutions.

Concluding its commentary, AL-BA'TH confirms that Syria will continue to work to achieve its objectives and to represent Arab will regarding the return of occupied territories and the restoration of usurped rights. Leader al-Asad's visit to Geneva and his meeting with President Bush there was aimed to serve Arab objectives and to promote the pan-Arab cause, the paper adds. Likewise, it was meant to serve Iraqi interests, and to spare Iraq—land, people, and army—a catastrophe. We will continue efforts to achieve these objectives, utilizing all of our capabilities and resources, the paper says.

Under the headline "The Geneva Summit, the Constantly Extraordinary President," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH comments on the personality of leader al-Asad and affirms that his excellency the president affirms for the thousandth time that he is the epitome of a homeland and a nation. The paper adds: His political and strategic accomplishments are as enormous as the cause and the nation. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad is capable of persuading others to espouse his firm political and strategic views and convictions. Observers view the results of this meeting as ones couched in Syrian Arab terms on the nation's issues, beginning with the Arab-Zionist conflict, and ending with the Gulf crisis, the Iraqi invasion, the Lebanese issue, and terrorism.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: We are talking of a formulation using Syrian political terms, which is also a reflection of the Syrian political perspective that has marked the behavior and conduct of Hafiz al-Asad. Hafiz al-Asad is known for firmness in defending this perspective.

TISHRIN newspaper, in one of its commentaries in "Behind the News" column, indicates that the agreement by Presidents al-Asad and Bush on the need to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict is undoubtedly an important step. The paper notes that it is clear to everybody that Syria has given its undivided attention to the Arab-Israeli conflict, that this conflict has been festering for more that 40 years, and that it has not been accorded due international attention.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: Presidents al-Asad and Bush have denounced terrorism and supported the efforts being made to secure an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. They also expressed support for the current efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis. Moreover, they supported endeavors for a comprehensive Middle East solution. All of these are positive moves. What remains to be said is that Washington has to translate its recent trends into tangible measures designed to end Israel's arrogance and its aggressive and expansionist designs.

## Al-Shar', UK Officials Discuss Relations

*JN2611145990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received at noon today a British parliamentary delegation lead by MP [member of Parliament] (Robert Headley) of the Conservative Party. The delegation also included (David Neal), ranking MP of the Liberal Party; and (Tim Rat-Gowe), Conservative Party MP. Also present were Yusuf Shakkur, assistant foreign minister; Muhammad Khadr, director of the West European Department in the Foreign Ministry; and the deputy head of the British interests section in Damascus.

Talks concerned bilateral relations between Syria and Britain. The head of the parliamentary delegation, (Headley), stressed the importance of resuming diplomatic relations between the two countries as soon as possible.

The parliamentary delegation also explained the domestic situation in Britain in light of developments in the ruling Conservative Party.

They also exchanged views on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Gulf crisis, and the situation in Lebanon.

### Army Chief Reportedly 'Bitterly' Criticizes Iraq

*NC2411235690 Paris AFP in English 2118 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Damascus, Nov 24 (AFP)—Syrian Army chief General Hikmat al-Shihabi bitterly criticised Iraq Saturday for invading Kuwait, saying it had played into Israel's hands and damaged Arab unity.

In a speech to Air Force officers, Gen. al-Shihabi said the August 2 invasion performed "a free service to Israel and imperialism" and struck at "Arab unity and solidarity" by causing the deployment of foreign forces in the Gulf and "the strengthening of our enemy Israel's arsenal".

However Syria was trying to end the crisis "in an Arab framework" and to "cut short any internationalisation" of the conflict, he said.

"We send our soldiers to Arabia and the Emirates to prevent an extension of the crisis and we are ready to defend any Arab country that is attacked", he added.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President George Bush held talks on the Gulf crisis in Geneva Friday.

### Al-Shar' Briefs Assembly on Current Developments

*JN2711074490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The People's Assembly held a session last night under its speaker, 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, and in the presence of Mahmud Qaddur, deputy prime minister for services affairs, and some ministers.

During this session, the Assembly listened to a political review of the current Arab and international situations by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Al-Shar' explained Syria's views on the current developments in the Arab and international arenas and how to deal with the big challenges our Arab nation is facing and the consequences of these challenges. He also spoke about the international changes on the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly following Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. Al-Shar' said: Since the Corrective Movement under President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria has been able to confront all forms of challenges and changes through a principled view of the future. The Corrective Movement laid the foundations of a foreign policy that can detect the real state of affairs, reject its negative aspects, develop its positive aspects, and change what should be changed in the interest of Syria and the Arab nation.

The foreign minister stressed that Syria's wise policy and sound approach, under struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad, have provided Syria with farsighted vision that is able to foresee the future clearly and calmly.

Al-Shar' spoke about the circumstances under which the Iraqi forces entered Kuwait on 2 August 1990. He said that Syria's stand, under its leader Hafiz al-Asad, has been firm and principled, and has focused, from the very beginning of the invasion, on rejecting one Arab country's invasion of another Arab country and any harm to the Iraqi and Kuwaiti peoples. Al-Shar' explained the developments and implications that followed the invasion, particularly the arrival of foreign forces into the Gulf region, and some states' hesitation to denounce the invasion, their refusal to abide by Arab charters and the Collective Arab Defense Pact and to dispatch Arab forces to defend the Arab states that are exposed to threats in the Gulf region.

The foreign minister said that Syria has always been committed to defending the Arabs, their issues, and interests, and has always confronted any aggression against them. Al-Shar' added: Had all the Arab states denounced the invasion of Kuwait from the very beginning, Iraq would not have annexed Kuwait and turned it into an Iraqi governorate. This has placed Iraq at an impasse and before serious options. Al-Shar' said: Although Syria rejects the invasion of Kuwait and abides by the Iraqi withdrawal and the reinstitution of the legitimate government, it differentiates between the Iraqi regime's irresponsible actions on the one hand, and the future of the Arab people in Iraq and concern about their resources and capabilities, on the other. Al-Shar' stressed that great leader Hafiz al-Asad, the founder of Syria's foreign policy, through his ability to foresee the future, and his deep awareness, can confront all forms of challenges.

After the foreign minister ended his briefing, a number of the Assembly members posed several political questions on the Arab and international situation. The minister answered these questions clearly and in detail. The session then was adjourned until 1800 today.

### Parliamentary Talks With Cyprus Begin 24 Nov

*JN2411204590 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1805 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Damascus, 24 Nov (SANA)—Parliamentary talks began here today between Syria headed by People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah and Cyprus headed by House of Representatives President Dr. Vasos Lissaridhis.

Mr. Lissaridhis spoke during the round of discussions. He described his current visit to Syria as one taking place within the framework of coordinating similar stands on current bilateral, regional, and international issues, and of bolstering the role of Syrian and Cypriot parliamentarians, especially in light of international changes.

For his part, Mr. Qaddurah stated that the existing relations between Syria and Cyprus are an example of equal relations to be followed between any two friendly countries. They should be strengthened and developed continuously to serve their mutual interests.

He stressed that Syria continues along the course of struggle and liberation to free the occupied Arab territories, retrieve the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and save the Arab region from the destruction and dangers that threaten its security and that of the world as a result of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Syria also supports the demands of the Cypriot people for unity and independence. The Syrian Arab and Cypriot delegations emphasized that their views were identical on various topics and issues discussed in the talks and on the need to work to entrench and develop relations of cooperation, especially parliamentary relations, and to coordinate on proposed bilateral issues and in international and parliamentary forums.

Mr. Qaddurah noted that the People's Assembly had issued a resolution to re-form the Syrian-Cypriot friendship committee under his presidency to work toward strengthening relations between the two parliaments and people in Syria and Cyprus.

### Qaddah, Lissaridhis Meet

*JN2411205190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Damascus—Comrade Dr. Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received Mr. Vasos Lissaridhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, and the members of the parliamentary delegation accompanying him.

They reviewed various aspects of relations between the peoples in the two friendly countries based on trust and mutual understanding of the issues in the region. They also discussed appropriate means to bolster and develop these relations.

The comrade assistant secretary general reiterated Syria's support for the Cypriot people's struggle to realize the unity of their country. He referred to the Republic of Cyprus's backing of the struggle of our people against Israel's expansionist policy.

Mr. Lissaridhis expressed great appreciation for Syria's role under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, who has realized an effective and influential presence for Syria in the issues of the region and the world.

### Cypriots Confer With Al-Zu'bi

*JN2511151190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Damascus—Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received this evening Vasos Lissaridhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, and his parliamentary delegation.

The meeting was attended by Shakir Is'ayyid, head of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Cypriot ambassador in Damascus. The meeting dealt with friendship and cooperation between Syria and Cyprus and the desire of the two countries and peoples to reinforce them in all fields, which would benefit them both and allow the use of the resources available to Syria and Cyprus in order to employ them and expand their joint spheres. [sentence as heard]

The meeting also dealt with parliamentary cooperation between the two countries and other issues of interest.

### Meet With Al-Asad

*JN2511151690 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1015 today Mr. Vasos Lissaridhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, and the parliamentary delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah. The talks centered on relations between Syria and Cyprus, the positive results of the Cypriot parliamentary delegation's visit to Syria, and the delegation's talks with Syrian officials.

### Agricultural Export Allowed Without License

*JN2711092290 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 20 Nov 90 p 1*

[By Jihad al-Na'san]

[Text] Starting today, exporters of agricultural produce are no longer required to obtain an export license. The Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade issued a decision yesterday allowing the exportation of all agricultural products, and all types of vegetables and fresh and dried fruits to all countries, including the countries which are signatories of the payments agreement, without an export license. This decision applies to all products that can be exported.

In return, the Ministry allowed the importation of goods and products which can be imported under the regulations of foreign trade according to reciprocal documentary credits between exportation and importation at a rate of 100 percent of the value of exported agricultural products.

The Ministry will keep a special record for this purpose at the Foreign Trade Department, which depends on the data of the Customs General Department and the Syrian Trade Bank.

The Exportation Committee made a decision on this issue in its session which was held last Saturday with the aim of encouraging exporters and easing the procedures and formalities needed for this purpose.

## Afghanistan

### Reportage on Najibullah Visit to Switzerland

*WA2311183890*

For reportage on the visit by Afghan President Najibullah to Switzerland, including reports on his meeting with Swiss parliamentarians and a news conference, please see the Switzerland section of the 20 November West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

### Najibullah Returns to Kabul From Switzerland

*LD2311213590 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] The Press Office of the Presidency reports that esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan and president of the Homeland Party, who visited Geneva on 19 November on a working visit to establish contact with elements involved in the Afghan problem and in search of a peaceful solution, returned this afternoon to the homeland.

The report adds that esteemed President Najibullah of Afghanistan had a series of meetings during the visit with some state authorities of Switzerland and with authorities of the United Nations in Switzerland.

### Najibullah Holds News Conference 26 Nov

*LD2611185890 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[News conference held by President Najibullah in the Storay Palace of the Foreign Ministry in Kabul on 26 November—recorded]

[Text] [Najibullah] Esteemed friends, I am pleased to see you here. First of all, I want to say a few words in connection with my visit to Geneva, and then I will be at the disposal of the esteemed journalists to reply to their questions.

You are aware that from 19 to 23 November, that is 28 Aqrab to 2 Gaus, I paid a visit to Switzerland. Of course, the aim of this visit was talks with personalities and activists among the Afghan opposition, as well as meeting Swiss parliamentary and political authorities and figures. I also had talks with the officials of UN agencies.

As far as talks with the Afghan opposition are concerned, I can specifically tell you that we carried out negotiations on seeking a political solution by means of understanding and dialogue or an inter-Afghan understanding. As I mentioned in a news conference in Switzerland, it is too early to reveal with whom and with which group the talks were held. However, an understanding was reached to continue such talks in the future. As far as the conclusion is concerned, I am pleased at holding such talks and at their results. I think a good foundation was laid for taking further steps toward finding specific ways to resolve the Afghan issue, relaying on Almighty God—God willing—in order to ensure a political solution through continuing such talks, to being peace in our country and free the suffering Afghan people from war.

Regarding the parliamentary and government authorities in Switzerland, I should say that although my visit was not an official one, and was considered an unofficial and working visit, our delegation was warmly welcomed by the Swiss Government and parliamentary authorities. And all the necessary facilities were provided at a high level to ensure the success of such talks in Switzerland. We take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation.

I had meetings with Sadruddin Aga Khan, coordinator of UN human and economic aid for Afghanistan and with the head of the UN European Section, who is an assistant UN secretary general, to secure humanitarian and benevolent economic aid from the UN. I also met the head of the International Red Cross. The Republic of Afghanistan is the initiator of the national reconciliation policy and I personally, as president, feel more responsibility for taking further steps on this course, that is, securing peace, which is a great human and national matter and which is for the good of our nation and the interests of our country, and, God willing, we will succeed in this course.

But in contrast to this, while we were searching for red roses of peace in Geneva, you could see that some extremist leaders, including Gulbuddin, brandished a pistol in the Lowgar border area and declared, by firing it, a general offensive across the country to gain power by military means. I will clearly tell you that now the people of Afghanistan and the world know that those leaders of the extremists have been turned into bluffers of the battlefield. They are incapable of doing anything. Briefly, they want to show the world and their supporters that they are still alive, and that they should not be abandoned, because they are blindly firing rockets on civilian targets, killing innocent people, and shedding their blood. But we consider it our national and human duty to conduct negotiations, without any preconditions, with anyone and any force anywhere they want, to implement the national reconciliation policy and the restoration of peace in the country; and my reliance in this course is on God and—God willing—we will attain the restoration of peace and the salvation of our wretched people from the misery of war; and we will succeed in this course. With this brief prologue, I am at your disposal, if there are any questions.

[Moderator] Esteemed journalists, please introduce yourselves when asking questions and please use the microphone when you are speaking.

[Representative of BAKHTAR] Esteemed president of Afghanistan, what is your view on the continuation of talks between the Soviet Union and the United States on the Afghan issue?

[Najibullah] First of all, I should say that the high-level talks between the Soviet Union and the United States will contribute to the political solution of the Afghan

issue. As far as we know, fortunately, the stance of both countries is getting closer every day regarding the solution of the Afghan problem, and differences and disagreements are being reduced. However, as we have said several times, although we welcome such talks held by international organizations such as the United Nations, or talks at high level between the Soviet Union and the United States, the key to the solution of the issue is in the hands of the Afghans themselves. Afghans are able to think about their peace plan and ways for its implementation by means of inter-Afghan understanding, dialogue, and talks; they can make decisions and then take steps toward putting these decisions into practice. Doubtless international factors including the talks between the Soviet Union and the United States will contribute to this process.

Regarding my visit, talks were held and views exchanged to specify this peace plan and a mechanism for its implementation. That is the reason why I told you that a good foundation has been laid and a base has been laid in order to take further steps.

[Moderator] Thank you. The next question is from Mr. Deepak. [Deepak, in English followed by Dari translation] Question from Deepak Tripathi from the BBC: Mr. President, you have had a highly publicized visit to Geneva. We have covered it from this end and London has covered it too. However, there is one unanswered question. As you know a number of Afghani opposition figures have denied holding talks and having contact with you. Can you tell us with whom and which personality, and at what level, you have held talks at this sensitive stage? Despite the fact that you mentioned earlier that you do not want to reveal their names for the sake of future immunity in the process of the talks, please give us some information about the quality and level of the talks, and with which group the talks were held?

[Najibullah] As I have mentioned, an understanding was reached between the sides that in order to avoid harming the continuation of the process of talks and the peace, we avoid mentioning specific names. We shall put this commitment and agreement into practice. Regarding the quality and specification of the opposite side in the talks, it consisted of persons who favor a political solution of the Afghan issue, want to resolve the process by political means, and understand the meaninglessness of the 12-year war. As far as the quality of the talks is concerned, the trip of a president to Geneva will not take place for talks at a low level; they must be in a high level.

[Representative of Afghan radio-television] Esteemed president, please give us your view about a possible agreement among the superpowers about the negative symmetry, that is, a simultaneous halt in supplying arms to the sides involved in war in Afghanistan.

[Najibullah] You know that it is not only the United States that provides arms and financing to the opposition. Various sides and various countries have supplied them with financial, material, and arms assistance. In particular, the maximum armed interference and aggression has been provoked from territory of Pakistan by the Pakistanis. When the issue of negative symmetry or a halt in the supply of arms to both sides is being discussed, such talks should take into consideration all the sides, in a complex and comprehensive way.

Meanwhile this process should accompany the declaration of a cease-fire and should also accompany UN control of the Afghan border, especially the Pakistan side. It would be better if measures were slowly and gradually taken to round up arms. In that case we can assess negative symmetry as positive, which will lead to peace; otherwise the bilateral cessation of the supply of arms by the United States and the Soviet Union—as you know, only the Soviet Union has given arms assistance to Afghanistan, to the side of Afghanistan—will not ensure peace in the country, but on the contrary will lead to the intensification of the dangerous situation. Therefore I would rather that all sides who give aid should accept negative symmetry through an international consensus and the declaration of a ceasefire.

[Moderator] Thank you. Mr Tamim from Akhbar-e Hafta.

[Tamim] Esteemed president, I have two questions. First: What impact did your stopovers in Ankara and Meshad have in consolidating the international stance of the Republic of Afghanistan? Second: After your visit to Geneva and the meetings that took place, and also the changes that have occurred concerning the Afghan problems, what new role do you envisage for Zahir Shah, the former king?

[Najibullah] I should have noted in my prologue that I had a brief stopover in Ankara, capital of the Republic of Turkey, and also, on return, I had a brief stopover in Meshad. In both places we were warmly received by state officials. And talks were conducted in an open and friendly atmosphere and views were exchanged, especially on effectively and fruitfully ensuring the development of friendly and cooperative relations betwen Afghanistan and the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Iran. During those brief talks some specific fields of cooperation were also highlighted, and questions of studying and practically implementing them met with positive responses from Turkey to Iran.

We should outline another point in connection with these talks, that as a result of changes in the situation and conditions and as a result of transformation which has occurred in our country in the political, economic, and social fields, in view of the favorable new international climate, both countries—Iran and Turkey—are in favor of a political solution of the Afghan issue. Without doubt such a stance on the part of these countries shows that the national reconciliation policy has influenced the international arena and is being respected by the world's people. Naturally, it will enhance the international prestige and credibility of Afghanistan.

Regarding your second question, I must tell you that I do not give a role to Zahir Shah. But Zahir Shah himself, and others, and each Afghan and any other political force can play its role in the matter of ensuring the process of peace. And their role will be established according to how active or how passive these forces and personalities are. However, I assure you that in the climate of talks which took place in Europe and Geneva, and according to the information we received there, almost all those Afghans who live in Europe and the United States and their political circles seriously favor a political solution of the issue and they believe that this question cannot be solved by military means. Of course there are disagreements in connection with finding a workable peace plan and a mechanism for its implementation, how a national understanding can be reached, and how national unity can be ensured and about methods, style, and directions. However, on this principle all think in one direction, that is to resolve the issue by political means.

Finally if you assess the state of the Republic of Afghanistan and its political allies, a majority of the internal commanders, the moderate section of the seven alliance [opposition groups in Peshawar]—also, we should mention, among the alliance of nine [opposition stationed in Iran]—we have seen intentions and tendencies for a political solution of the Afghan issue, especially among Afghans in Europe and some of them in the United States, the supporters of Muhammad Zahir, ex-king of Afghanistan; all call in one voice and in one direction that the issue should be solved by political means. Now we need to find out how to resolve it by political means and with what mechanism; this too can be specified by the Afghans themselves, as I said earlier, as a result of dialogue and talks. Anyway, this tendency is becoming a dominating tendency. Therefore, the opposition want to conceal this powerful and strong tendency, even though it has appeared in a favorable international climate.

I read a document in Geneva which was published in Europe on 9 November, that is, 10 days before my visit, by circles or persons close to ex-king Muhammad Zahir Shah, on a foundation for a political solution of the Afghan issue. From what I read, I think that such a stance is taking a realistic and logical form. This in itself gives hope.

Regarding your question, the role of Muhammad Zahir Shah can be a positive one in the political solution of the Afghan issue.

[Moderator] Mr Aleksandr, a representative of Soviet television.

[Aleksandr] In your view, as a result of your talks with the representatives of the opposition, new and serious changes will take place in the military and political situation. If such changes should take place, what will they be?

[Najibullah] I think—and I have said this several times and I will repeat it again—that if the present aggression and interference from Pakistan's territory ends, then, based on the spirit and benefits of the Geneva accords, with the cooperation of those categories I have mentioned who favor the establishment of peace in the country, peace can be immediately established in our country.

So far as the United Nations is concerned, we have made requests to the leadership of the organization and our friend, the Soviet Union, about the circumstances of the implementation of the Geneva agreement for preventing interference in our internal affairs. Talks have also been conducted in this respect with relevant UN organizations in Geneva, on how world public opinion and other countries, especially the United States, which shows a positive inclination in negotiation with the Soviet Union and in changing its policy, shall bring pressure to bear on Pakistan to ensure that it observes the Geneva agreements and stops violating those agreements. In that case I can tell you that we can take specific steps to restore peace. So far as my talks in Switzerland are concerned, we note that on top of our previously announced mechanism, which has consistently been enriched with new views and proposals, we also (?proposed) some other variants for political solution of the Afghan problem, on the basis of our resolute will and our goodwill, because peace has become the sacred wish and the inexorable need of our people. We have nothing that cannot be sacrificed for such a great popular cause. Let our present and future generation make their judgement in respect of these measures and efforts of ours.

[Moderator] Thank you. Mr Rugh from Payam.

[Rugh] Esteemed president, your visit to Geneva shows a new stage of inter-Afghan dialogue. In your view, what are the main characteristics of the new stage of inter-Afghan dialogue? Have we come closer to a new turning point in attaining peace?

[Najibullah] Although we have announced many times that talks and contacts have continued at various levels, I think that this visit and negotiation—and specifically, elaboration on the the proposals put forward by the Republic of Afghanistan to the other side—is in it own right a new stage. This is because it discards unilateralism in the issue and draws in the sides involved for the determining of such a mechanism or peace plan. And, as I said, a mutually agreed ground exists which can be considered as a good base for later steps. Naturally it is progress. We call it progress.

[Name indistinct] correspondent of ANIS newspaper. Esteemed president, while the Republic of Afghanistan consistently presents its efforts for political solution of the Afghan problem, the opposition has not presented any new proposal apart from war slogans. I would like to know your views on new proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan, and the world's view of them.

[Najibullah] Thank you. We share your view that so far the extremist section of the opposition—not all the opposition—has not put forward any proposal for the restoration of peace; they just shout slogans of war and insist on military pressure and a military solution of the Afghan problem. And this has caused the people of Afghanistan,

the majority of commanders—who do not accept the instruction of their leaders because they know that behind those war slogans lie alien interests—and moderate opposition and intellectual circles, supporters of Muhammad Zahir Shah, and the nine-party group to take steps in the course of peace. So the extremist section of the opposition is leading for isolation. And they have themselves opted for that fate for themselves. So far as our proposals are concerned, as I told you previously, besides the previous mechanism we also discussed other variants, which you will know about in due time. Thank you.

### Deputy Premier Leads Delegation to USSR

*LD2511171590 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Press Office of the Prime Ministry reports that 'Abdul Wahid Sorabi, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, left this morning for the Soviet Union in order to participate in talks which are to be conducted with the deputy prime minister of the Soviet Union and head of the Soviet section of the permanent joint commission for Afghan-Soviet economic and technical cooperation in Moscow. Zakim Shah, minister of commerce, 'Abdul Tawab Asefi, governor of Afghanistan Bank, [words indistinct] are among of the Afghan delegation.

## Bangladesh

### Ershad Returns, Remarks on SAARC Summit

*BK2311163690 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Text] President Ershad returned to Dhaka tonight after attending the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in Male. The president told the concluding session of the summit in the Maldives capital today the current summit has been able to restore the momentum of the organization, belying the doubts expressed about the viability of South Asian regional cooperation. President Ershad underscored the need for addressing matters of priority concern to member-states individually and collectively. He said the decision of the summit to work out modalities for funding joint ventures, establish cottage industries and handicrafts, and mobilize resources to encourage and strengthen individual and collective self-reliance has opened up new horizons of cooperation in the region. The president said the decisions on the studies on the causes and consequences of natural disasters and protection and preservation of the environment, and trade, manufactures, and services should ensure early launching of cooperation among member-states. He noted with happiness that the center for human resource development will be established soon. President Ershad said the launching of SAARC travel document and the decision to facilitate increased interaction among journalists, news agencies, and mass media are important steps forward to promote people-to-people contact in the region. The concluding session was also addressed by King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of Bhutan, Indian Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar, Nepalese Prime Minister K.P. Bhattarai, Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, and Prime Minister D.B. Wijetunge of Sri Lanka. Our special representative, M. Saheb Ali, said in his dispatch from Male that spouses of the heads of state and government, including First Lady Begum Ershad, foreign ministers, and foreign secretaries of SAARC countries, and selected guests witnessed the closing session. The decisions of the SAARC Council of Ministers and foreign secretaries were also adopted at the closing session. President Ershad was given a hearty send-off when he left for home after attending the SAARC summit. He was seen off at the airport by Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom and Madame Gayoom.

### Ershad Talks Viewed

*BK2411120690 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Nov 90*

[Station commentary]

[Text] South Asia can look forward to a new era of peace and understanding. This is because a positive climate has been created by the successful outcome of the fifth SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit. The meeting of the seven leaders has generated a new mood for dealing with bilateral issues which have so far evaded solutions.

President Ershad and Indian Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar took the opportunity of their presence at the Male summit to discuss outstanding bilateral problems in a relaxed atmosphere. Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif called on the Bangladeshi leader, while both Indian and Pakistani prime ministers held bilateral meetings between them. Similar bilateral meetings have taken place among other South Asian leaders. Undoubtedly, these talks have created the base for more vigorous dialogues on the bilateral problems in the near future. Many of the bilateral issues which confront the regional nations are the results of historical factors and shared colonial legacy. It is only natural that some of the contentious issues have their roots [word indistinct] embedded in history. It will require consistent efforts and positive approach to unravel the intricacies associated with the problems. Bangladesh has always insited that bilateral issues should be resolved for stability in the region and for setting out and implementing strategies for development. If bilateral disputes continue to influence the relations, then there is hardly a scope to tackle the core issues (?involving) the development, poverty, backwardness and social inequities. The South Asian region is the home of 1 billion people, almost one-fifth of the global population. But the region contains [word indistinct] of the world's poor and the unlettered. Several South Asian countries have a high degree of child mortality and abnormally high population growth and the low level of literacy. Many of these issues can be

addressed jointly with the sharing of experience, something that the SAARC has been promoting since it was established in 1985.

The talks between President Ershad and Prime Minister Shekhar covered bilateral issues like the sharing of common rivers, including the Ganges; the transfer of the Tin Bigha corridor, and question of the Chakma [tribal] insurgents. These unresolved problems have been having an impact on the growth of bilateral relations. Both leaders have underlined that considerable ground has been covered toward solutions. It is necessary that the future efforts in this direction must be based on the progresses already made.

The talk with the Pakistani leader concerned the possibility of enhancing trade and economic relations. Pakistan has agreed to buy more tea from Bangladesh and offered to sell capital machinery of intermediary technology. The issues of the repatriation of stranded Pakistani nationals from Bangladesh and sharing of assets have remained unresolved, although on previous occasions both sides said some progress has been made on both counts. There is need for vigorous efforts by both the countries to reach a solution of the humanitarian problem of the transfer of over 250,000 Biharis who are living in refugee camps in Bangladesh since 1971. These people had opted to go to Pakistan and successive Islamabad governments gave assurances that they would be taken if not at a time, at least in phases. There are new leaderships both in India and Pakistan. It is expected that they will adopt a more constructive approach to the bilateral problems. It should be clear to all that it does not serve anybody's interest to keep bilateral issues unresolved where practical solutions are available. One hopes that the leaders will demonstrate the kind of maturity which is expected of them, particularly at a time when the world is rapidly moving toward globalism.

### Gun Battle Reported at Dhaka University

*BK2511125490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] In Bangladesh, heavy gun battle erupted in Dhaka University campus today during an antigovernment protest. Police said the trouble started when gunmen in an ambulance opened fire at a students' rally backed by the opposition parties this morning. Three persons, including two students, have been admitted to the hospital with bullet wounds.

### Ershad Speaks at College, Views Opposition

*BK2511164890 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] President Ershad has said that politics which start with anarchy, terrorism, and destruction can never deliver the good to the country and people. He was addressing students and teachers of Titumir College in Dhaka today. The president said political movement must follow the constitutional process as anarchy and destruction are (?not good for) the nation. He said political parties which are using a section of students to create a state of anarchy through destructive activities in the country should realize the ultimate result of their deeds. President Ershad again stressed for solving problems through discussion intead of violence and terrorism. Steps should be taken through discussions by all as to how the development of the country could be accelerated and problems in the educational arena be resolved. The president asked the students to evaluate what has been happening in the name of political movement. He congratulated the students of Titumir College for maintaining peace and discipline in the interest of undisturbed studies. The president declared that three new subjects—psychology, statistics, and geography—would be introduced in the college. He also said the construction work of Shahid Barkat auditorium at the college campus would be completed before next 21st February.

Speaking on the occasion, the vice president and general secretary of Titumir College Students Union said the majority of the student community do not believe in anarchy, violence, and terrorism. They said the student community would not bear the responsibility for the destructive activities of the handful of boys.

### Ershad Urges 'United Protest' on Opposition

*BK2611161090 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] President Ershad has appealed to the conscious section of the society to voice their united protest against the so-called opposition movement. He said the movement is pushing the country into anarchy and terrorism. The president was addressing over 600 members of Bangladesh Qari Society and teachers of Bangladesh Ibtedai Madrasas [religious schools] when they called on him at the International Conference Center in Dhaka this afternoon. Maulana Abdul Mannan, MP [member of parliament], led the delegation. President Ershad said what some opposition parties are doing by inciting students is nothing but anarchism to destabilize the country. He also said terrorism and anarchy cannot be termed as constitutional way of politics. Those who are doing destructive politics and bringing sufferings to the poor masses cannot be patriots.

### Ershad Changes Portfolios of Two Ministers

*BK2511164690 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] The president has reallocated the responsibilities of ministers, Mr. A.B.M. Ghulam Mostafa and Dr. Mizanur Rahman Shelley. Mr. Ghulam Mostafa has been given the portfolio of information, while Dr. Mizanur Rahman Shelley got the Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development, and Flood Control.

## India

### Janata Dal Claims Pakistan Nuclear Capable

*BK2711004090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1950 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 26 (AFP)—Pakistan has nine nuclear bombs which it intends to use in a new war with India, a senior party colleague of former premier Vishwanath Pratap Singh said Monday.

S.R. Bommai was quoted by the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) as saying he had come to know from "reliable sources" that Pakistan now possessed the nine nuclear bombs.

Earlier, Islamabad's intention had been to use the bombs as a last resort but current policy was to use them at the "very beginning" of a conflict with India, Mr. Bommai said.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since partition in 1947, two of them over Kashmir which is claimed by both countries.

Mr. Bommai is president of the Janata Dal (People's Party), one of the partners in the National Front coalition government headed by Mr. V.P. Singh, which was voted out by parliament on November 7.

"A strong fundamentalism-oriented government" has taken over in Pakistan now and India should be vigilant against it, PTI quoted Mr. Bommai as saying.

### Commentator Reviews Relations With Pakistan

*BK2711125490 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, met his Pakistani counterpart, Mr. Nawaz Sharif, in less than two weeks of his assumption of office in the idyllic surroundings of Maldives, an archipelago in the Indian Ocean. The two-hour-long review of India- Pakistan relations was devoid of polemics. Both Mr. Chandra Shekhar, and Mr. Nawaz Sharif chose to have a frank appraisal of the Kashmir and other contentious issues in Hindustani and Urdu. A significant outcome was the decision to resume the interrupted process of bilateral talks at all levels. The foreign secretaries would meet in Islamabad from December 18th to 20th to discuss steps to defuse tension over the Kashmir issue and firm up dates for future meetings to tackle the Wular Barrage issue and the question of demarcation of maritime boundary.

Mr. Chandra Shekhar expressed satisfaction at the outcome of his first meeting with the Pakistani prime minister whom he found to be cooperative. They agreed that if the two countries continue to have confrontation, they would not be able to address themselves to the problems of their people. Diplomatic observers feel that it is too early to talk about a change in Pakistan's foreign policy priorities under the leadership of 41-year-old Mr. Nawaz Sharif who made tall promises to Kashmiri secessionist elements in the run-up to elections in his country. The fallout of tension over the Kashmir issue is being increasingly felt on the India-Pakistan relations. Mr. Sharif was on record as having promised continued moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiri secessionist elements. Mr. Nawaz Sharif burst on to the political scene in early 1980's, around the time the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] was being conceived as a vehicle of promoting intraregional cooperation in various fields. He appeared to be a subdued personality all through his stay in Maldives for the SAARC summit.

In a low-key speech at the inaugural ceremony of the summit, Mr. Nawaz Sharif regretted that the new wave of reconciliation and accommodation had not yet pervaded the South Asian region. He did not expect the SAARC to achieve its full potential unless disputes and differences between member states were resolved peacefully. A contrast to his approach was provided by none other than his foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who true to form, did not miss the opportunity to raise the Kashmir issue at the Council of Ministers meeting preceding the summit. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan did not stop there. He injected a sense of anxiety among member states by calling for a change in the SAARC charter to take up festering bilateral disputes and political problems. One will have to wait to know the reasons for this kind of dual approach on the part of Pakistan at the SAARC meeting.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif has spent barely a month in office. On the other hand, Mr. Yaqub Khan, has served almost uninterruptedly as foreign minister under the late General Ziaul Haq, Mr. Mohammad Khan Junejo, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, and Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan represents a continuity in Pakistan's foreign policy which needless to say is greatly influenced by Washington. The U.S. connection has come under a severe strain of late following the renewal of pressure on its nuclear program by Washington and disruption of the military aid. The Gulf crisis also has had an adverse impact on Pakistan's economy. Apparently, a reappraisal of foreign policy priorities seems to be on the cards in Islamabad. Interestingly, for the third time in the last six years a change in government has followed in India and Pakistan in succession. The Pakistani elections followed those in India by three months in 1985 and the Indian elections followed those in Pakistan by a year in 1989. Diplomatic observers feel that the threat of war looming large on the subcontinent has receded greatly with the new leaderships busy in grappling with domestic problems. But Mr. Nawaz Sharif is unlikely to show any change on the Kashmir issue, at least in public, and keep the relations with New Delhi on hold for some time, waiting for what a Pakistani columnist says better signal and fresh elections in India. But on the other hand, it is needless to say that in India the new government's foreign policy will be on relations with the neighboring countries, at least in the beginning.

### Nepali Premier Departs; Power Agreement Signed

*BK2611163890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] India has agreed to purchase from Nepal its surplus hydel [hydroelectric] power. Both the countries will undertake a joint study to identify the overall hydel power potential in the Himalayan state for its development to the maximum benefit of the people of the two countries. This was decided during a meeting the prime ministers of the two countries—Mr. Chandra Shekhar and Mr. K.P. Bhattarai—had in New Delhi today. An official spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry also said that India has agreed in principle to buy surplus power from Nepal. The modalities for this are to be worked out later. The spokesman said a joint river commission will determine the hydel power potential of the Kosi River Basin in Nepal.

Talking to newsmen before his departure for home, the Nepalese prime minister expressed satisfaction over his talks with Indian leaders. Mr. Bhattarai said India has agreed to extend a credit of 35 crore rupees to Nepal as loan. Asked whether his government will take effective measures to check deforestation in the Himalayan region which affects the environment in India, Mr. Bhattarai said every effort will be made to preserve the ecological balance. The Nepalese prime minister was seen off, among others, by the external affairs minister, Mr. V.C. Shukla, and senior officials.

### Spokesman Denies Iraq Forcibly Off-Loaded Ship

*BK2611160990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] The Indian relief ship MV Vishwa Siddhi is likely to return soon after unloading the remaining 4,702 tons of food supplies in Iraq for the benefit of the foreigners. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said the Indian missions in Baghdad and Basra are drawing up the modalities for the off-loading after being authorized by the chairperson of the UN Security Council's Sanction Committee. The spokesman denied a report that the Iraqi authorities forcibly off-loaded rice and essential commodities from the ship.

### Trade Agreement Signed With Poland 26 Nov

*BK2611101790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] India and Poland are to conduct trade in freely convertible currencies from the 1st of January next year. This is one of the important provisions of the new trade agreement between India and Poland, which was signed in New Delhi this morning. The agreement was signed by the commerce minister, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, and Poland's minister for foreign economic relations. Other provisions of the trade agreement include reciprocal grant of most favored nation's status and the spelling out of transitional arrangements necessary to move the bilateral clearing arrangements to trade in favorable currencies. The new trade agreement replaces the existing one which expires on the 31st of next month.

### Congress-I Favors Temple With Mosque Intact

*BK2611162690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Some religious and political leaders have called for a negotiated settlement of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid [temple-mosque] issue by keeping it above party politics. The Shia Muslim leader, Maulana Syed Mohammad Musavi, has called upon all secular and democratic forces to oppose the politicization of the Ram Jamnabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he said the issue should be resolved through a dialogue among the leaders of both the communities. He said he has written to the prime minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, giving the outline of a formula which he claims to have evolved for settling the dispute.

The Congress-I says it stands for the construction of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya at the shilanyas [foundation stone] site without disturbing the structure of the Babri Masjid. This was stated by the party general secretary, Mr. H.K.L. Bhagat in New Delhi today.

### Shekhar on Talks With Punjab Extremists

*BK2711033490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The prime minister has asked the extremists to come to the negotiating table to resolve the Punjab problem. Speaking to newsmen, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said he is willing to any citizen of India, whatsover might be his views, to solve the problem. Describing the situation in Punjab as being quite bad, he said his endeavor will be to convince the militants to give up the path of confrontation because this will not help anybody.

On the Ayodhya issue, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said he did not think that the same atmosphere of tension will build up again. He said talks are being held to resolve the issue.

On center-state relations, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said there should be better understanding between the two. He is against central interference in matters concerning the states. But, at the same time, the states should fulfill their obligations to the union, the prime minister said.

Admitting that the economic position is quite bad, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said he is confident that little discipline and better management will tide over the situation. He said the country has adequate infrastructure, resources, and vitality to deal with the situation. Answering a question, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said the government may consider reducing the recent hike in prices of petroleum products, if the situation in the Gulf improves and stabilizes.

### Government Employees End Strike in Kashmir

*BK2711092890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, normal work has resumed today in all state government offices in the Kashmir Valley after a 71-day-old strike by employees. Government offices, including courts, municipal office, electricity department and educational institutions, started functioning today. Road Transport Corporation buses were also seen plying on all the routes. The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir and national conference leader, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, has welcomed the withdrawal of the strike by the state government employees. Dr. Abdullah, accompanied by Professor Saifuddin Soze, MP [member of parliament], called on the prime minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, this morning and thanked him for taking the initiative to end the strike.

### Shekhar Notes LTTE's Presence in Tamil Nadu

*BK2611164390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] The prime minister says there is no question of the center trying to topple any state government. Talking to a group of newsmen while returning to New Delhi from Bombay, Mr. Chandra Shekhar referred to the presence of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam—of Sri Lanka] in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu and said it is the responsibility of the state government to deal with the situation and bring it under control.

Replying to a question on the language issue, the prime minister reiterated that Hindi will not be imposed on anyone. He made it clear that the center's policy is to encourage all languages.

### Tamil Minister Refutes Arms Factory Charge

*BK2511065290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 90*

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr. M. Karunanidhi, has strongly refuted the charges that the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] is running a textile factory and an arms factory in his state. He also denied the report of the existence of the LTTE training camps in Tamil Nadu. Mr. Karunanidhi, who is also the DMK [Dravidian Progressive Foundation] president, was briefing news persons after the party's administrative committee meeting in Madras last evening. The Tamil Nadu chief minister also said that there is no truth in the allegation that petroleum products are being smuggled to Sri Lanka from his state.

### Afghan Exiles Concerned About Peace Settlement

*BK2711014090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0130 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[By Kate Webb]

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 27 (AFP)—Afghan exile groups here believe new Soviet-U.S. moves are under way to forge a peace settlement in Afghanistan but are concerned about the possible outcome.

Some of the exiles cautioned that the moves, which they believe are being worked out in Geneva, could worsen the situation rather than bring peace if the inclusion of all Afghan resistance factions is mishandled.

"The moves are good, if everyone is sincere, but not if they are designed to separate the resistance," said Anwar Arggandewal, a former Afghan royalist minister.

Mr. Arggandewal was commenting on activity involving key players in the Afghan war, including Soviet-backed Afghan President Najibullah's sudden trip to Geneva last week, and the trip to Pakistan by Afghan resistance leader Ahmad Shah Mas'ud last month.

The former minister said he believed Moscow and Washington were now "working on a scenario behind the curtains" to end the war between the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul and the U.S.-backed mujahidin resistance.

The two superpowers have so far been unable to bring together the two sides that continued fighting after the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in Feburary 1989.

The belief that a plan is being worked on is shared by scores of Afghan exiles in India, some of them royalists, some backers of Mr. Najibullah and others members of various mujahidin resistance groups.

Because of reported contacts last month between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and exiled Afghan King Zahir Shah, most exiles feel the deal involves supporters of the ageing former monarch.

"About half the resistance faction members would agree for the king to play a role in an interim government, but others would not," one source said.

Asian diplomatic sources in Delhi privately say they believe something is afoot on the Afghan front.

One source here pointed to the fact that General Nurul Haq Olomi, a powerful Soviet-trained general in Mr. Najibullah's army, but with overtly expressed royalist leanings, was now in Moscow on an unstated mission, having been relieved of his post as governor of the Pakistani-border province of Kandahar.

It was Gen. Olomi who, at the tense time of the Soviet troop withdrawal, took Mr. Najibullah at his word when the Afghan president said he was willing anywhere and anytime to share power with the mujahidin.

Gen. Olomi forged an agreement with the mujahidin to form a joint government in Kandahar and presented it as a fait accompli to Mr. Najibullah, who flatly refused to accept the plan, calling it too fragile.

More than a year after that the general, who is from a branch of the royal family and in whose Qandahar

headquarters communist party symbols have always been conspicuous by their absence, told foreign journalists he still believed the plan could have worked.

Mr. Arggandewal, justice minister before Zahir Shah was ousted in a 1973 coup after which he became a university lecturer, said this weekend he believed there was hope for an Afghan agreement.

However he stressed that to avoid a disastrous division of the mujahidin along monarchist and anti-monarchist lines, the negotiators should use the old pre-communist Afghan constitution as their starting point, but deleting the clause saying Afghanistan is a monarchy.

That constitution, he argued, had been ratified by all Afghan people before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, and as such could be an acceptable base on which to start building an interim government.

Moscow and Washington have both said they favor the installation of an interim government as a prelude to elections, but so far the mujahidin have said Mr. Najibullah, whom they brand a Soviet-installed puppet, must go before they will talk peace.

### Experimental Reactor Commissioned in Bombay

*BK2611123690 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] The world's first experimental nuclear reactor, Purnima, was commissioned recently at the Bhabha Atomic Research Commission in Bombay. Purnima, which uses Uranium-233 as fuel, is basically a copy of the Kamini reactor at Kalpakkam. Here is a report from our Bombay bureau:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Purnima uses manmade Uranium-233 as fuel unlike other reactors like Cirus. In the case of Cirus for example, natural Uranium-235 is used. At present, Purnima is the only experimental reactor in the world which uses Uranium-233. Purnima is very compact in size. The core volume can take less than 10 liters. Basically, Uranium-233 is obtained from thorium rods of Cirus reactor. Through the process of irradiation, thorium is converted into uranium. Beryllium oxide is used as a reflector. Instead of heavy water, a light water is used as a cooling agent. Various studies and experiments related to safety and operational aspects of Kamini would be conducted on Purnima.

[Unidentified technician] Purnima-III represents a small but significant step in India's efforts at developing the thorium as an energy source for the next century. Thorium is available in Kerala and Orissa in plenty. With that, the third generation of nuclear power stations in India has a promising future. [end recording]

## Iran

### Velayati on Help for Hostage Nationals in Lebanon

*LD2611162690 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today assured the families of four Iranian citizens kidnapped by Phalangist terrorists in Lebanon in 1982 that the Islamic Republic would continue its efforts to secure their release.

Velayati vowed that Iran Republic would never give up the issue.

The families briefed the foreign minister on the outcome of their recent tour of some European and Middle East states to attract attention from the public and humanitarian bodies towards the plight of the four Iranians—the longest held hostages in Lebanon.

The Iranian hostages include three diplomats and a photographer working for the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA), and were kidnapped by Christian terrorists at a checkpoint in East Beirut.

For the last eight years no word has been heard of the fate of the kidnapped Iranians, despite the Islamic Republic's humanitarian efforts.

The hostage families visited Switzerland, Ireland, Syria and Lebanon, where they called on world bodies such as the Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as well as Lebanese Government officials and leaders of the Christian and Muslim communities.

### Reaction to Najibullah Stop at Mashhad Airport

#### Ministry Denies Talks Held

*LD2711084190 Tehran IRNA in English 0814 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 27, IRNA—An informed source at Iran's Foreign Ministry Monday [26 November] denied foreign media reports on Iran's support for the peace trend in Afghanistan, published after an emergency landing of plane of the president of the Kabul regime in Mashhad, Khorasan Province last Friday [23 November].

The rumours were spread after Najibullah's plane landed at Mashhad Airport for refueling and his subsequent interview in Kabul regarding Iran's support for the peace procedure in Afghanistan.

The Foreign Ministry source said that no talks have been held with Najibullah in this connection adding "the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the political future of Afghanistan will be determined by the Muslim nation of the country and the Afghan mujahideen."

According to informed sources, Najibullah's plane was on its way from Geneva to Kabul and stopped at Mashhad Airport for 45 minutes to refuel. He was in

Geneva for talks with the special representatives of Zahir Shah on future of Afghanistan.

### Iran-Based Mujahidin Deny Meeting

*LD2611125990 Tehran IRNA in English 1159 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—Informed sources here Monday [26 November] denied any meeting between leaders of the Iran-based Afghan Mujahideen groups and head of the Kabul regime Najibullah, when a plane carrying him from Geneva to Kabul made a brief stop-over at Mashhad Airport for refuelling Friday [23 November].

The sources reiterated that none of the Afghan Mujahideen leaders based in Iran met or conferred with Najibullah when his plane made a 45 minute stop-over at Mashhad Airport.

## Further on Visit by Irish Foreign Minister

### Meets With Ministers

*LD2411201190 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 24, IRNA—Visiting Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins today discussed with Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Mohsen Nurbakhsh mutual cooperation in oil, gas, petrochemical, industry and agriculture areas.

Among other topics brought up at the meeting were educational cooperation and joint investments in the field.

In another meeting with Agriculture Minister 'Isa Kalantari, the Irish minister reviewed ways and means for joint economic and agricultural infrastructural cooperation.

Collins' deputy John Swift who is accompanying him held a separate meeting with Deputy Minister of Housing and Urban Development Hashemi here today. The two discussed grounds for scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The Irish foreign minister arrived here on 22 November heading a high ranking delegation.

### Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

*LD2411190490 Tehran IRNA in English 1549 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 24, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani says the West's policies, particularly those of the U.S., concering the Middle East and the Persian Gulf region are contradictory.

In the president's opinion the Western powers continue to strengthen the Zionist regime and at the same time prevent the coming to power of a force in Islamic and Arab countries to stand against that regime on the pretext of regional security.

He made the remarks in a meeting with the visiting Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins here, where the president also stressed that regional countries should safeguard the security of the region themselves.

The president also welcomed expansion and deepening of ties between the two countries.

Collins in response underlined the significance of the Islamic Republic of Iran as a country capable of preventing a military confrontation in the Persian Gulf region.

He also elaborated on the stance of the European Community on the unconditional withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait.

The Irish foreign minister arrived here Thursday [22 November].

### Signs Agreement, Departs

*LD2511155790 Tehran IRNA in English 1325 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 25, IRNA—Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins wound up his 3-day visit to Tehran Sunday [25 November] with the signing of a letter of understanding with his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The agreement, inked by the two foreign ministers at Tehran airport envisages holding of the Irano-Irish joint commission on economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation.

Speaking to reporters at Mehrabad International Airport, Collins said the holding of the joint commission would play an important role in expanding Tehran-Dublin ties.

In view of their respective geographical and historical backgrounds as well as their cultural heritage, the two countries could step up cooperation, he said.

Velayati, who saw off the Irishman, said no major issue has arisen in Iran-Ireland relations. "We have had understanding towards international issues and both sides are willing to expand relations in various fields," he said.

"We talked about the Persian Gulf crisis. Iran has a key role in defusing the crisis and can assume an important role in the stability of the region," he added.

Velayati said he informed Collins of Iran's viewpoint on respect for geopolitical boundaries and withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf.

He also made it clear to the Irish foreign minister that regional security concerns only the regional states.

## Omani Official Visits To Discuss Gulf Situation

### Arrives 24 Nov

*LD2411162590 Tehran IRNA in English 1458 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 24, IRNA—Its strategic location warrants the Islamic Republic of Iran to play a major role in preventing a serious crisis from erupting in the Persian Gulf region, Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-al-Alawai Bin-'Abdallah said here today.

Bin-'Abdallah, upon arrival here for a two-day visit, said that he intends to exchange views with Iranian officials on strengthening mutual ties, and also on the current critical tension in the Persian Gulf.

The Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, he thought "has led to a situation likely to result in a war any moment, endangering interests of all regional countries."

He considered it essential for officials of regional states to meet and find ways to prevent a war from taking place.

### Meets With Velayati

*LD2511125990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Latest developments in the region and the Persian Gulf, mutual ties, and relations between Gulf Cooperation Council member countries and Iran were discussed at a meeting between Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Omani Foreign Affairs Minister Yusuf Bin-al-Alawai Bin-'Abdallah last night.

During the meeting the two sides described as fruitful the meeting of the foreign ministers of Persian Gulf Arab countries and the Iranian foreign minister in New York. They stressed the necessity for holding a second meeting in the capital of one of the seven countries. They declared their readiness to set up such a meeting in Tehran or Muscat.

During the meeting, refferring to Iran's fundamental stand about the Persian Gulf crisis, Mr. Velayati reiterated the necessity of noting that regional problems should by solved by regional countries. He declared our country's readiness to pave the way for cooperation with Persian Gulf states in political, economic, and other fields.

The Omani foreign minister declared that his country is ready for any cooperation with Iran. He recounted the dangers of a military clash in the region and stressed the necessity for finding a peaceful solution to end the crisis.

### Departs; GCC Meeting Set

*LD2511154990 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 25 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 25, IRNA—Foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states would soon have a second meeting, and this time in Muscat, the capital of Oman, said Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today.

Velayati made the remark at Mehrabad International Airport while seeing off the Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-'Abdallah.

He said Bin-'Abdallah was in Tehran for talks on the Persian Gulf crisis and on ways of expanding the "friendly relations" between Tehran and Muscat.

In the light of his recent visit to Baghdad and the trip of the Iraqi foreign minister to Oman, Velayati termed Bin-'Abdallah's visit to Tehran made on the eve of a GCC foreign ministers meeting as being "of special importance."

"The two sides share common views on the future and stability of the region in the long run," said Velayati.

Iran, which opposes the August 2 Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, has strongly questioned the U.S.-led Western military build-up in the region, and maintains that Persian Gulf security is the job of littoral states and not outsiders.

Velayati said his first meeting with GCC foreign ministers was in New York a few months back on the sidelines of the 45th General Assembly meeting, when they had agreed to hold their second round of talks in Muscat.

Bin-'Abdallah told reporters that the aim of his 24 hour visit to Tehran was to submit [to] President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani a message from Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id dealing with the situation in the region.

He said both countries have agreed that Iran should continue its political and economic cooperation with Persian Gulf states for the sake of restoring peace and security in the region.

## Daily Questions Motives Behind U.S. Gulf Role

*LD2411204990 Tehran IRNA in English 1837 GMT 24 Nov 90*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 24, IRNA—An English daily today questioned the real motives behind Washington's meddlings in the Persian Gulf, and said "the idea that the U.S. does not want to liberate Kuwait, they want to obliterate Iraq, is a very plausible one."

KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL warned that "when the Americans do finally attack both Kuwait and Iraq they will intend to stay in both places for years to come."

Citing Washington's military stranglehold on countries without oil such as Philippines, Korea, Germany and Japan, it wondered whether an industrially flagging America which will soon have 400,000 troops in place, will "forgo the opportunity to dominate the Persian Gulf militarily and in the process control the West's lifeline."

KAYHAN blasted Arab regimes supporting the "American occupation of new Arabia and eventually perhaps

Kuwait and Iraq," and linked the increasing atrocities of the illegal state of Israel against the rightful inhabitants of Palestine with events in the Persian Gulf.

"No one should be shocked if Israel expels the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, takes the other side of the Jordan River and annexes its security zone in South Lebanon citing new dangers from an inflamed Arab world," it added.

The paper also recalled the American connection to the eight year Iraqi war against Islamic Iran, especially in the light of the confession of a former Carter administration official to the Washington-Baghdad collaboration.

It urged Saddam Husayn that now was the time "to bring the relevant skeletons out of the closet", and hoped that the Persian Gulf "will soon unveil an Iraqgate scandal making it increasingly difficult for the Pentagon's war machine to be uncorked."

KAYHAN said, "The American public does not want a war in the Persian Gulf. Sections of the ruling elite, with President Bush at the helm, do.

"The American people deserve to know the whys and wherefores of a foreign policy that has sought to destroy both Iran and Iraq in the course of the last ten years.

"Has it all been for 'Eretz Israel'? Maybe", concluded the daily.

### *'Threatening' Bush Message Needs Correction

*91AS0228B Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 4 Nov 90 p 2*

[Text] The Turkish newspaper HURRIYET has claimed that Turkish President Turgut Ozal during his trip to Japan on 10 November will have a short stop-over in Iran and will meet with his Iranian counterpart, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The newspaper moreover claimed that Ozal's visit to Iran follows a telephone conversation he had with U.S. President George Bush, and that Ozal would be delivering a message from Bush for Hashemi-Rafsanjani. On the contents of Bush's message, the daily said, the U.S. wanted greater control to be applied on the Iran-Iraq border to tighten the economic embargo against Iraq.

Tehran would welcome the visit of Mr. Ozal. During the eight-year Iraq-Iran war, Tehran maintained the same stand towards Mr. Ozal despite the fact that Baghdad at that time was considered one of Ankara's close friends. Turkey was said to have covertly wanted the Iraq-Iran war to continue so that it could derive economic benefits, which undeniably it was receiving.

Today the region is embroiled in a crisis and for resolving it, or at least controlling it, there is a need for contacts between high-ranking officials of key countries. A meeting between Presidents Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Ozal would be fully acceptable and logical from this point of view. But the message, which Bush is supposed to be presenting to Tehran throught Ozal has threatening overtones, according to what HURRIYET reported.

The report is unconfirmed and has not been validated. But if it is true, several points need to be clarified and placed on record.

Firstly, it coincides with the anniversary of the takeover of the U.S. spy den (embassy) in Tehran by students following the late Imam Khomeyni's Line, for which extensive demonstrations are to take place here today. Such publication of news can only be divisive and inflammatory.

Secondly, Iran has explicitly declared its stand on the present crisis. It has repeatedly announced that it is sticking to the UN Security Council resolutions and the 1000-kilometer long Iran-Iraq borders are under check, even through the resolutions allow for the supply of food and medicine for humanitarian purposes.

Before the Americans express any concern about Iran, perhaps they should first complain against their decades-long ally Jordan, which has placed its ports and roads at the disposal of Baghdad.

Thirdly, the economic sanctions against Iraq, as we have seen so far, have not succeeded in achieving the aims of the United States and other countries opposed to Iraq. The causes for the failure of the economic embargo should be sought in other fundamental issues, and certain neighboring countries should not be blamed for it.

### Majles Calls For Worldwide Mobilization

*LD2611134590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Excerpts] By signing a statement read at today's Majles session, the Majles deputies praised and thanked the selfless basijis [mobilization personnel], stressing the need for comprehensive efforts by the system's officials to alleviate the problems faced by these dedicated forces. [passage omitted]

Part of this statement notes the presence of U.S. forces on the sacred land of the divine inspiration and the massacre of innocent Palestinian Muslims by the usurpers of noble al-Quds [Jerusalem]: Today, when the followers of the pure Muhammad's Islam—may God's blessing be upon him and his scion—are enduring pressure and torture at the hands of the enemies of mankind throughout the world. Today, when the oppressed and barefooted of the world are being trampled under the evil aspirations of the gods of power, wealth, and hypocrisy devoid of any support, there is only one solution, a solution that was reiterated by our clear-sighted imam and persistently pursued by the greatest leadership—that is—the formation of a worldwide Basij of Mostazafin [Organization of Mobilization of the Oppressed] and the expansion of the armed resistance cells vis-a-vis the aggressors and the bullies.

***Aid to Israel Questioned After 'Atrocities'**

*91AS0228C Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Nov 90 p 2*

[Text] Zionist troops shot and wounded over 300 Palestinians and killed several others in the occupied Gaza Strip on Saturday during clashes over the death of a Palestinian in an army jail.

Palestinians compared the scale of the protest and casualties to unrest in Gaza that followed the police killing of 18 Palestinians on Jerusalem's Temple Mount last month and the killing of seven Gazans by an Israeli gunman in May.

After the 1948 war, the Zionists occupied more than a half of Beitul Moqaddas, deporting 60,000 of its Arab, Moslem and Christian residents. In the next phase, Israel completed its occupation of the city in 1967 and enforced a scheme to turn it into a Jewish town by suppressing Moslems.

Declaration of Beitul Moqaddas as the capital of the Zionist regime served this purpose. The arson attack on al-Aqsa Mosque in 1969, the attempts by various Zionist groups to explode the Mosque in 1980, shooting of people at prayers by Zionist troops in 1982 and on the whole the destruction of hundreds of mosques, schools and churches since 1967 by the Zionist regime are other steps taken towards turning the holy Qods into a Jewish town.

The oppressed land of Palestine is burning in fire and blood today. Palestinian youths are gunned down by the ruthless Zionist troops every day amidst cries of "Allah-o-Akbar". The enemy has entered the battlefield with 'iron fists' but stronger than that is the determination of the Palestinian revolutionaries who are standing firm against the occupiers.

Today the Palestinians pin no hope in the Arab royal courts or the "rootless" Arab monarchs. Today the fate of Palestine is determined in the streets of Beitul Moqaddas, Gaza Strip, Beitul Lahm, Khan Yunus, and whenever there is an opressed and combatant Palestinian.

On the other hand, the United States must be questioned for all the assistance it is rendering to the Zionist regime, including its recent 700-million-dollar aid to Israel. Why is Washington as a country claiming to be a strong advocate of human rights, trying to justify Israel's terrorism and atrocities? Why is the Arab reaction keeping silent and through this deadly silence in fact encouraging the Zionists?

Today the Islamic world, the international community and all those claiming to defend human rights are responsible for the lives of the Palestinians who are being ruthlessly massacred by the Israelis only for defending their rights.

Palestine has been turned into a bloodbath today and all those who feel the least humanitarian cause, should take action in defending the innocent people of Palestine. They should respond to the Islamic Republic's call, voiced by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i recently, that the Palestinians should be financed and equipped with arms and publicity.

Today it has been proved to most revolutionary Palestinian leaders that any diplomatic approach to the issue such as negotiations or compromise with America and Israel will only face the wrath of the Palestinian people. They have realized that escalation of the uprising and keeping away from any diversionary negotiations are the best response to the beastly and barbaric attacks of the usurper Zionists. Israel's 'iron fist' policy is doomed and tension is most likely to escalate in the occupied territories in the coming days.

***Nabavi Editorial Criticizes Mohtashemi**

*91AS0186A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 29 Oct 90 pp 1, 2*

[Editorial by Morteza Nabavi: "Protecting From Falsehood"]

[Text] In his speech yesterday, Mr. Mohtashemi defended some (Footnote 1) (Mr. Asgharzadeh in his preagenda speech, RESALAT 17 October 1990) who have been called "black reactionaries" from top to bottom by the Islamic and divine government, and he announced his lack of belief in "the religious requirement of participating in the elections," willed by the late imam, may Almighty God be pleased with him, and recommended by the exalted leader and the grand ayatollahs, and....

Mr. Mohtashemi, we grant you the right to defend and support your friends, but is not the best support making them understand the "high aspirations of the great leader of the Islamic revolution"?

Is not the Islamic government made up of the high aspirations of his holiness the imam (may God have mercy on him)? Apparently, these friends of yours still do not know that Islam and the Islamic government does not get its religious legitimacy and rightfulness from my vote and yours, it gets its religious legitimacy from God and the Prophet (peace be upon him), inspiration and revelation. Perhaps they think if we vote for Islam, it becomes religiously legitimate, and if we do not it is not religiously legitimate!

Would it not be better if you, who do not think this way, made your friends realize that it is a source of pride for Iran that it has chosen "Islamic government", the commands of God, the Koran, and Islam as the form of its government and laws, and that it has voted decisively to record its "acceptance of Islam" in the Constitution?

Now be fair. Is not the label "black reactionary" used by Mr. Asgharzadeh accusation and slander spoken in unison with the foreign radio, and did we not see that the slogan, "Israel's spokesman must be expelled from the Majles,"

which you and I heard on the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic, and did we not we hear people saying it during the prayer service? Was it right for you to refer to the hezbollah nation, who gathered behind the Majles last Thursday, and also at the Friday prayers, took part in the demonstrations at Qom and Varamin and elsewhere and chanted slogans against the likes of the VOICE OF ISRAEL announcer (following the exalted imam and the supreme jurisconsult), as "a group of deceived people," or "self-interested and transparent"?

Evaluate your language once more:

"O God, have You seen the way bloody palm prints were smeared on the pure faces of the people who conquered the spy nest on the eve of 4 November by a group of deceived, self-interested, and transparent people from the podium or in front of the Majles, and they were accused of doing something they fought and struggled against all their lives?"

Does someone who conquered the spy nest, which in itself is very valuable and praiseworthy, have the right to talk like the foreign radio stations and relieve them of the need of their self-interested and hostile analyses?

Is a revolutionary track record a justification for opposing the government and its values? In that case the actions of Talha and Zabir violating their oath of loyalty to 'Ali (peace be upon him) also ought to be religiously legitimate! Is it right for you and your friends to do everything in your power to stir up public opinion against the measures enacted by the Assembly of Experts and the respected theologians of the Council of Guardians, and the elections for this assembly, and to try to make the people pessimistic about it, and then to come before the Majles saying that statistics on voter turnout for the elections to the Assembly of Experts were down, and this and that?

Do you know that the total votes cast for the first session of the Majles, which followed the presidential elections for Bani-Sadr, was fewer than 11 million, and why this was so? Did Bani-Sadr have the right to stir up public opinion against the government and its values that way, and to attack it?

In view of the presence of aggressor American forces in the area in the sacred divine sanctuary, instead of supporting the government and the officials, must you and your friends speak in such a way that the foreign radio stations have no need to spread poison and rumors? Is this the way to fight America on the eve of 4 November, the anniversary of the occupation of the spy nest? Should you and your friends be shouting out against the people, the officials, the Assembly of Experts, and the theologians of the Council of Guardians, or against America?

If you respect the vote of the people, why do you say this about those in charge of the government: "No kind of action, resistance, executive or practical planning has been done by those in charge of the nation's government and the leaders of the Islamic nations."

Is fighting against Israel merely a slogan, or should whatever they do be exposed and thwarted? Isn't this behavior providing grist for the mills of Israel and America? In support of your friends, wouldn't it have been better if you had first corrected their ideas and beliefs, making them perceive properly the most important part of the precious legacy of his holiness the imam (may God have mercy on him), meaning the idea of "rule of the supreme jurisconsult," and making them follow the supreme jurisconsult and religious law in their actions? Second, they must repent of talking like the Voice of Israel and return to the path of the nation. Third, you and they must desecrate no further the sacred position and station of the Majles.

## Pakistan

### Editorial Reviews Sharif Visit To UAE

*BK2611141190 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 26 Nov 90 p 4*

[Editorial: "A Fruitful Visit"]

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has concluded his two-day official visit to Abu Dhabi and Dubayy during which he had wide-ranging talks with United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Shaykh Zayid bin Sultan Al-Nuhayyan and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubayy, Shaykh Maktum bin Rashid. They exchanged views on important regional issues and the Gulf crisis and its effect on the economic and political situation in both countries. Before leaving for home at the end of his talks, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif sadi that there was complete unanimity of views between him and the UAE leaders: "I feel more than satisfied."

The UAE is the second country in the Gulf after Saudi Arabia that the Prime Minister has visited after assuming office. Pakistan has traditionally strong ties with both the oil-rich countries. He flew into Abu Dhabi directly from Male after conclusion of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] Summit and was accompanied by a high ranking delegation. During the visit, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met several UAE officials led by President Shaykh Zayid bin Sultan al-Nuhayyan. Besides reviewing the effects of Iraqi invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait on the entire region they also discussed securing more oil and investments in joint ventures. Pakistan has come under extreme economic strain because of the Gulf crisis. According to knowledgeable sources it needs half a billion dollars in foreign aid to offset heavy losses caused by rising oil prices, spending on refugees from Kuwait and Iraq and loss of remittances from Pakistani workers who had been employed there. One area on which Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif laid special stress was the promotion of remittances of the Pakistani community in the UAE which at 250,000 is the largest group after the Indians.

Although the details of the discussions which Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif held with President Zayid have not been made public, it is understood that they were useful and constructive. The very fact that despite his illness the UAE President came out to receive Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and stood holding him by the hands for ten minutes is a pointer in this direction. It reflects the affection and respect he has for the Pakistani leader. Moreover, out of the 90-minute talks he had with him, for nearly 70 minutes they were without aides. That shows that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to the UAE has been an unqualified success and there has been total agreement between the two leaders on matters of wide ranging impact. The visit would undoubtedly give a boost to the existing cordial relations between the two countries.

### Cabinet Reviews Foreign, Domestic Issues

*BK2611165290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] The federal cabinet at its meeting in Islamabad today had an in-depth review of the foreign policy focusing on the Gulf situation, Pakistan-India and Pakistan-U.S. relations, economic and the law and order situation, and took important decisions in these sectors. The meeting presided over by the prime minister, Mr. Nawaz Sharif, continued for seven and half hours. It was attended by federal ministers as well as chief ministers of all the four provinces.

Briefing newsmen later, the finance minister, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, said the prime minister presented a report on his umrah [minor pilgrimage] visit to Saudi Arabia, SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in Male, and his visit to Abu Dhabi and Dubayy as well his talks with their leaders. He said the cabinet decided that Pakistan should adopt a policy of self-reliance. It reaffirmed Pakistan's principled position on the Gulf and gave its concurrence for the opening of negotiations with the United States on the Pressler Amendment and for the third round of talks with India at foreign secretary's level next month.

The cabinet decided to send more troops to Saudi Arabia for the protection of the Haramain Sharifain [the two holy shrines].

On the economic side, it reviewed the price situation and decided to monitor it on regular basis to protect the common man. It decided that essential items like pulses, garlic, and onion may be imported and sold at reasonable rates. It directed the provincial governments to monitor the prices of daily necessities and to direct shopkeepers to display their price lists. They have also been directed to ensure fares of buses and other means of transport are not increased beyond 10 percent.

The cabinet decided to either restructure the Youth Investment Corporation or the Small Business Finance Corporation to provide small loans to people of small means to open up business. It was decided to set up a mortgage bank to provide loans to poor people on long-term basis for low-cost housing. Three to five marla [measurement of land] plots are being provided to poor people at present for construction of houses.

In law and order, tangible improvement will be ensured in close cooperation with provincial governments to provide a sense of security. The Sindh chief minister undertook to bring about tangible improvement in the law and order situation in the province within two and half months.

The prime minister had ordered that in the next cabinet meeting, a legislation on the speedy trial courts should be brought forward prescribing capital punishment for kidnapping for ransom. He said all licenses for prohibited bore weapons already issued will be canceled and no such licenses will be issued in future. He said the government is launching a major drive to root out corruption as the new elected government is not going to tolerate it. Provincial governments are also being asked to issue similar instructions to their departments to check and eliminate corruption.

About measures for self-reliance, the finance minister said efforts would be made through reducing the budgetary deficits and increasing exports. Measures are being taken to step up collection of revenues and taxes. Tax collecting agencies have been asked to collect at least 10 percent more taxes than the budgetary target to generate another 12 billion rupees. He explained that in the first four months of the current financial year, exports registered an increase of 24 percent and they had now decided to boost exports increase by 30 percent. This would bring another $1-1.5 billion.

The cabinet has decided in principle to allow provincial banks to function in the private sector. Guidelines are being prepared and would be announced in due course. It also decided to withdraw the recent increase in the price of cement.

Referring to provincial autonomy and provincial issues, the cabinet reaffirmed that for the main pending issues of distribution of resources and apportionment of water, meetings of the National Finance Commission and the Council of Common Interests are being summoned in the third week of next month.

Answering a question about the foreign exchange position, the finance minister said although there was pressure on foreign exchange due to Gulf crisis, the government had managed the foreign exchange reserves well and fulfill its liabilities.

### Scientist Urges Building Nuclear Reactors

*BK2711135490 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The renowned scientist, Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, has stressed the need for making atomic reactors in the country to overcome the shortage of electricity and for rapid growth of industry and development of agriculture.

In an interview with Radio Pakistan's representative in Multan, he said that some industrialized countries are producing electricity up to 50 percent through nuclear energy. He said that due to increase in the oil prices, it is necessary to concentrate on exploring such means of electricity generation which could be cheap and indigenous. Replying to a question, Dr. Qadeer Khan said the system of education in the country should be redesigned to meet the challenges and requirements of modern time.

### Caution Urged on Nuclear Issue Statements

*BK2711113690 Lahore THE NATION in English 27 Nov 90 p 6*

[Editorial: "Dealing With Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] It has now become abundantly clear that the nuclear issue is the principal bone of contention between Pakistan and the US, and the American administration is under great pressure from the Congress to strictly adhere to the Pressler Amendment. Notwithstanding the duality in American policy and Washington's selective concern for nuclear proliferation, a way out of the current impasse has to be found so that the question of suspension of aid to Pakistan is amicably resolved. Pakistan's official stance on the nuclear issue has been unambiguous and consistent and it has been time and again brought home that we have no intention of making a bomb. Apart from the country's enduring energy crisis that makes it imperative for Pakistan to pursue its nuclear programme, legitimate security concerns, particularly in the wake of India's known nuclear capability, have warranted that Pakistan kept its options open. Pakistan has, however, given the lie to the bogey of "Islamic bomb" recurringly being raised to justify the policy of blackmail, by vowing to sign the NPT [Non-Proliferation Treaty] and allowing international inspection of its nuclear installations provided India is also willing to do the same.

Now that the scope of the Pressler Amendment has been enlarged to include components of a nuclear device in the list of "contraband material" for aid recipients and Pakistan will be subjected to greater discrimination, there is need to formulate a strategy that could cope with the situation. While Pakistan should not compromise on principles, it should adopt a stance that would effectively sell its nuclear programme as a peaceful endeavour. And measures should be taken to restrain every Tom, Dick and Harry making statements and sending conflicting signals on the nuclear issue. Expressions of "jingoism" by people associated with the administration, however well meaning, amount to showing red rag to the bull, whereas the need of the hour is to keep a low profile on the nuclear programme in order to facilitate a negotiated settlement. It would be in the fitness of things that none other than the Prime Minister, or a person authorised by him, makes a policy statement on an issue as sensitive as the nuclear issue.

### Regional Solution for Nuclear Issue Examined

*BK2411123590 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 24 Nov 90 p 4*

[Editorial: "The Regional Solution"]

[Text] Pakistan's Prime Minister [PM] has reiterated at the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit the country's principled position on the nuclear issue, in the context of the subcontinent. Emphasising Pakistan's readiness to participate in any effort that pre-empts the possibility of a nuclear arms race, within a regional framework, the PM proposed that the states of South Asia enter into an agreement banning nuclear explosions. Over time such a ban could, presumably, be extended to cover other aspects. Of course, the two countries at the centre of the nuclear issue in South Asia are India and Pakistan. Unfortunately, the relationship between the two has been characterised by conflict and antagonism that has made progress in this regard difficult.

India, with a head start in the field has been persuaded, so far, only to enter into an agreement with Pakistan barring both countries from attacking each other's nuclear facilities. It has chosen not to respond in Pakistan's various offers, involving a stronger and more basic commitment to dispense with the possibility of a nuclear South Asia, such as the simultaneous signing by the two countries of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, an agreement allowing for the mutual inspection of each other's nuclear facilities, entering into a regional, or bilateral, nuclear test ban agreement, etc. The logic underlying its refusal has to do with the perception of its nuclear potential in the context of a regional power equation that includes China which enjoys a tremendous advantage in conventional weapons. But by the same token, Pakistan can argue that an India, with a definite edge in conventional capabilities and intentions that have repeatedly been proven hostile—most decisively in 1971—makes a unilateral renunciation of the nuclear option virtually impossible. More recent indications such as the development last year of India's first Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (Agni) have also been far from reassuring.

Seldom, however, has been the international environment as conducive as it is today for agreements between and among states to limit the production and deployment of the weapons of death and destruction. Given the level of poverty and deprivation of the close to one billion people who inhabit the region, it would surely make a lot of sense for the South Asian states to work out an arrangement that obviates the need to guarantee security through nuclear arms and releases badly needed funds to provide the inhabitants with the basic necessities. But it should by now be clear to all concerned including the United States, which is currently engaged in a no holds barred effort to force Pakistan into a

unilateral renunciation of the nuclear option that the matter will have to be settled within a regional framework—sooner or later.

## Sri Lanka

### Colombo Reports Heavy Fighting Around Mankulam

#### Details on Battles

*BK2611122390 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] During the last 48 hours ending 1200 yesterday, the curfew which was imposed in the districts of Jaffna, Mullaitivu, and Kilinochchi was lifted for five hours with effect from 0700 to 1200 on Saturday to enable the public to attend to their urgent daily needs. The curfew was also imposed in the districts of Vavuniya and Mannar with effect from 0600 on Saturday.

Heavy fighting has been reported in the areas of the Army Camp at Mankulam since fighting broke out between the security forces and several hundreds of LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists on the night of the 22d. The security forces backed by [words indistinct] have counterattacked the terrorists. The security forces are now reported to be fighting their way out of the Mankulam Camp amid mortar and heavy automatic gun fire. It is reported that terrorists have suffered over 100 casualties and security forces have also been heavy. [sentence as heard] Details of security forces casualties have not yet been received.

The security forces conducted a cordon and search operation against the LTTE terrorists in the (Waduwalada) area of the Trincomalee District. Twenty-two terrorists were reported killed in this action and the security forces have recovered a heavy machine gun, 10 automatic rifles, two .303 rifles, and mortar bombs. The security forces patrolling in the area between Tirappanai and Gomarankandawela engaged a group of LTTE terrorists. Eight soldiers died in the ensuing battle and three were wounded. Over eighteen terrorists were killed in this encounter. An LTTE terrorists' attack on the village of Kadupota in Tantirimalai area of the Anuradhapura District was repulsed by the security forces and the home guards. Three soldiers, two home guards, and a civilian were killed in this incident. In the Amparai District, the Special Task Force—STF—arrested four LTTE terrorists. Two Muslims were shot and hacked to death by the terrorists in the area of Mariamkulam in the Podduvil area.

#### 100 Soldiers, 196 LTTE Killed

*BK2711113290 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Nov 90*

[Text] The curfew imposed in the Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, Vavuniya, and Mannar Districts is still in force. According to a Defense Ministry communique, reports indicate that the security forces have now fought their way out of the Mankulam Army Camp which came under attack by several hundred LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists backed by mortars, rockets, and heavy machine guns beginning on the 22d and the 23d of this month. These attacks by the terrorists on the security forces were intensified. Terrorist suicide squads were launching the attacks to dislodge the troops that were holding the camp.

During the 24 hours ending at 1200 yesterday, some troops of the Mankulam Camp had made contact with the aircraft providing support. But radio contact has been restricted due to security reasons and bad weather. According to the communique, reports indicate that the casualties to both the security forces and the terrorists have been very heavy. Terrorists' transmissions indicate 196 of their cadres killed in action. Casualty figures of the Army has still not been finalized as reports have not been confirmed. Over 100 soldiers are feared dead. The LTTE terrorists claimed the capture of an armored car from the Mankulam Camp, when, in fact, it is only the hull of an armored truck kept as a monument in the camp where [word indistinct] are given to the armored corps. Donations to the National Defense Fund now exceed 201 million rupees.

### Muslims Demand Separate Council for East Province

*BK2611123490 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Nov 90*

[Text] A convention of Muslims on the ethnic crisis unanimously adopted that the temporarily merged Northern and Eastern Provinces be delinked. It also agreed that the separate provincial council should be established for the Eastern Province to enable the Sinhalese, Tamils, and Muslim communities to coexist peacefully in the region as they have done in the past. The convention organized by the National Assembly of Muslim Organizations was held at the BMICH [Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall] in Colombo yesterday. It was chaired by the speaker, M.H. Mohamed. It also adopted that a nonpolitical organization called Eastern People's United Front comprising leading members of all three communities in the Eastern Province should be formed to foster and promote intercommunal unity, fraternity, and friendship. Speaker Mohamed said that the proposed united front would be formed tomorrow to bring about unity among all communities in the east. He criticized communal policies and appealed to all political parties to oppose it. He pointed out that a separate provincial council for Muslims will only create more problems. The speaker assured the convention that President Ranasinghe Premadasa would not make hasty decisions without consulting the people concerned.